

Israelis move further into Lebanon

RASHAYA, Lebanon (AP) — An Israeli armoured force pushed north of its self-styled "security zone" in South Lebanon Sunday to a position overlooking bases of Hizbollah guerrillas, police said. They said the 35-man force in one Merkava tank and three armoured personnel carriers advanced two kilometres north from the Israeli-occupied village of Kfarbata at 6 a.m. (0400 GMT) into the Jabal Al Dahr mountainous terrain, a stronghold of the Iranian-backed Hizbollah. Asked to comment on the Lebanese police reports of Israeli troops advancing, a spokesman for the Israeli military command said: "The Israeli defence forces are not reacting to baseless reports." Police said Israeli helicopters flew reconnaissance missions over the area and it could not be determined whether the force has arrested any guerrillas or attacked suspected Hizbollah hideouts. "Police would know what has happened there once the Israelis withdraw from the area. Five hours later they were still there," a spokesman said.



Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية، الرأى

Yemeni media to stop anti-Saudi campaign

SANAA (R) — Yemeni leaders ordered the country's news media Sunday to stop a week-old campaign against neighbouring Saudi Arabia, Radio Sanaa said. A joint meeting of the Presidential Council and the cabinet, chaired by President Ali Abdullah Saleh, discussed relations between the two countries. Saudi Arabia sent home hundreds of thousands of Yemeni workers during the Gulf crisis in response to Yemen's sympathetic stand towards Iraq. The meeting ordered the campaign to stop from Tuesday "as a proof of goodwill of all Yemenis towards their neighbours and brothers." Yemeni newspapers in recent days have accused the Saudi government of oppressing the people and said the kingdom lacked democracy. The government daily Al Thawra, in an editorial Sunday, said Mr. Saleh received a letter from King Fahd during the Gulf crisis "which indicated that the Saudi government's measures against Yemenis residing in the kingdom were taken only because of Yemen's choice of democracy and plurality and not for any other reason." North and South Yemen united in May 1990. The government has said it is committed to establishing multi-party democracy.

Volume 16 Number 4858

AMMAN MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1991, JUMADH AL OULA 12, 1412

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

Parliament approves Assad's nomination

DAMASCUS (R) — Syria's parliament Sunday unanimously approved the nomination of President Hafez Al Assad for a fourth term as head of state. The 250-seat parliament set Dec. 2 as a date for a referendum in which the Syrian people could vote "Yes" or "No" to Mr. Assad being confirmed for another seven-year term starting next March 13. More than 60 deputies spoke at a special session which lasted five hours to discuss the nomination presented by the ruling Baath Party's regional command Saturday. The deputies representing the various parties grouped in the Baath-led National Progressive Front supported the nomination and urged people to vote "Yes." The speakers praised Mr. Assad's domestic and foreign policies and lauded his efforts to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East. Mr. Assad, 61, took power in a bloodless coup on Nov. 16, 1970. He became president in 1971.

Emir of Kuwait arrives in Moscow

MOSCOW (R) — The Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, arrived in Moscow from China Sunday as part of a goodwill tour. Sheikh Jaber was due to meet President Mikhail Gorbachev and Russian leader Boris Yeltsin on Monday. Moscow set aside traditional ties to Iraq to support U.S.-led efforts to free Kuwait of Iraqi forces. The Soviet Union committed no troops to the campaign but provided diplomatic support at the United Nations. Before leaving Beijing, the Emir thanked the Chinese government for its political support.

Libyan envoy's son stabbed in Malta

VALLETTA (AP) — The son of Libya's ambassador to Malta was stabbed in a scuffle outside a pinball parlour, police said Sunday in a statement that appeared to rule out any connection with the Pan Am 103 bombing indictments. Police said Salah Shahati, 16, who was described in critical condition, was stabbed Saturday night during an argument with a group of Maltese youths and a young man of Libyan and Maltese origin. They said in a statement that police were confident the attack on the son of Ambassador Ahmad Shahati sprang from "trivial personal motives," which were not spelled out in the statement. Police said several youths were arrested and others were being sought. No identities or nationalities of those arrested were given.

American believed held by Iraqis

KUWAIT CITY (AP) — Red Cross officials said Sunday they are seeking confirmation that an American engineer missing from Kuwait for almost a week was captured by Iraq. "It's a strange story. It's a closed border. I can't imagine how he managed to get into Iraq," said Jean-Philippe Lavoyer, head of mission at the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). Gordon Cordes, a road engineer with the Kuwait Emergency Recovery Office, was last seen Tuesday travelling north of Doha, a suburb of Kuwait City about 100 kilometres south of the border. The U.S. embassy confirmed that an American was missing and that international organisations had been contacted, but would release no other details at the request of his family.

Angolan woman with drugs held in Cairo

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian anti-narcotics officers arrested an Angolan woman Sunday after they found four kilograms of heroin in her luggage, airport sources said. Nzambant Pedro, 38, had the drugs in a box of glasses. She was in transit on her way from Bangkok to Lagos. The sources said Ms. Pedro admitted she was carrying the heroin on behalf of an international drug smuggling ring and its final destination was the United States. If convicted, she could be sentenced to death.

Sharif Zeid continues effort to form new government

Signs are that he will win a comfortable majority in Parliament

By Nermesa Murad
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Prime Minister-designate Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker quietly pursued his mandate Monday to form a new cabinet, amid signs that his government would be able to muster a comfortable majority in Parliament.

"His eyes are set on forming a national unity government," a source close to Sharif Zeid said. "We will have to wait a few days, however, before the final shape of the new cabinet is determined."

According to this and other sources, Sharif Zeid has so far limited his consultations to leaders of the different parliamentary blocs and political groups and has not reached the stage of drawing up names of individual candidates for ministerial posts.

The sources said that Sharif Zeid's goal of forming a national unity government is both feasible and attainable and that all possible consultations will be carried out to ensure the support, if not the actual participation, of all political forces in Parliament.

"Everyone has to be consulted, the left, the right and centre, before a final conclusion can be drawn out over the makeup of the new government," one well-informed source told the Jordan Times. "Sharif Zeid will take his

time before making a final decision however," he said, adding that the swear-in of the new team might not take place before Thursday.

The sources said that Sharif Zeid may have an easier task rallying the support of the different parliamentary blocs than Prime Minister Taher Masri "because the political landscape has changed," since Mr. Masri formed his government in June.

Observers and analysts explained that while Mr. Masri had to grapple with strong public and parliamentary reservations over Jordan's participation in the Middle East peace conference, Sharif Zeid is taking over after the Madrid conference had adjourned and was acclaimed as favourable to the Arab side.

"The central point of contention with the government has shifted from that of the peace process to internal problems such as furthering public freedoms and the internal economic situation," said a former minister, who is close to the consultations.

"This changed attitude will help Sharif Zeid win the support of many who opposed Mr. Masri's government," he added.

The 23-member Muslim Brotherhood bloc Sunday decided not to participate in Sharif Zeid's government but left open a

final decision on whether to abstain or withhold confidence from his government.

But many observers said the movement seemed resigned to the Kingdom's decision to follow the path of peace talks and while it continued to reiterate its principled opposition to peace efforts its priorities may be redirected to internal issues.

Brotherhood spokesman Ahmad Qataish Al Azaideh Saturday told the Jordan Times that he "did not rule out studying the option of (the Brotherhood) abstaining rather than voting against the new government." He implicitly indicated that his movement's support or rejection of Sharif Zeid's government could be tied to pressing internal issues.

"The issue of public freedoms will carry a lot of weight," Mr. Azaideh said.

The Islamists have made no secret of their feeling that they were being targeted by the Masri government. They say that many of their supporters were detained and point out that at least two of their planned gatherings to voice opposition to the peace process were aborted and one of their publications was banned.

"We hope that on the internal level there would be an improve-

(Continued on page 5)

Palestinians 'seeking to ensure their rights in new world order'

By Mariam M. Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Palestinians are participating in the ongoing Middle East peace process in an attempt to ensure the political rights of the Palestinians in the working of the new world order, Palestinian leaders said Sunday.

"Our participation is a strategic step which is meant to strengthen our position in this new world where all the ground rules have changed," said Faisal Hussein, overall head of the Palestinian team to Arab-Israeli peace talks.

Mr. Hussein and four Palestinian delegates to the peace talks answered questions at a gathering of over 4,000 several hours after their arrival from the West Bank. They later attended a meeting with His Majesty King Hussein, Foreign Minis-

ter Kamel Abu Jaber and senior Jordanian officials at the Royal Court.

Addressing the gathering at the Palace of Culture, the delegates said the exposure of the intransigent position of the current Israeli government was one of the main aims of the Palestinian delegation at the Arab-Israeli peace conference which opened in Madrid last month.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir was exposed as an opponent of international legitimacy," Mr. Hussein told the crowd.

Half a dozen residents of refugee camps in Jordan asked the delegates what the peace process had in store for the 1947-48 refugees.

"We will not forfeit the historical and legal rights of our people," Mr. Hussein replied. United Nations Resolution 181 — the partition

plan for Palestine — and Resolution 194 has forever guaranteed the right of return or compensation for those made refugees or displaced as a result of the creation of the state of Israel, Mr. Hussein told the audience.

The delegates, who included Mamdouh Aker, Saad Erakat, Samir Abdullah and Sami Kilani, told the gathering that they would not act contrary to the wishes of the Palestinian people or the Palestinian leadership, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

"We cannot and will not be allowed by our people to act contrary to their wishes," said Mr. Erakat.

The 14 Palestinian delegates to the peace talks and their seven-member guidance committee spoke to their

(Continued on page 5)

U.S. wants 'world response' to Libya over Pan Am blast

LONDON (Agencies) — U.S. Ambassador Raymond Seitz said Sunday Washington and London want an international response against Libya over the 1988 bombing of a Pan Am jumbo jet.

The two countries have named two Libyan suspects wanted for allegedly planting the bomb which blew up the airliner over Lockerbie, Scotland, killing 270 people.

Mr. Seitz told British television that Libya was "a renegade state and it requires an international response. Terrorism, as we've learned, is an international phenomenon and it can only be dealt with in an international response."

British Prime Minister John Major and U.S. President George Bush would pursue this line of action, Mr. Seitz said. Asked if the United States and Britain had set a time limit to Libya's response for handing over the two indicted for the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Scotland, Mr. Seitz said: "There is no deadline but we're not going to dawdle either."

He would not say if Washington was considering using force against Libya to make it comply with an extradition request. The

U.S. reaction "will be affected by the willingness of the international community to address this," Mr. Seitz said.

The United States and Britain have identified the two suspects as Abdul Baset Ali Mohamed Al Megrahi and Al Amin Khalifa Fhimah.

Libya has denied that it was behind the bombing and urged the United States and Britain to prove their charges before an impartial international court.

The Bush administration said Thursday it will recruit allies for a coordinated effort to "punish" Libya.

"We don't rule out any options," said Martin Fitzwater, the White House press secretary.

In 1986, the United States bombed Libya's two main cities, Tripoli and Benghazi.

The Arab League urged the United States and its allies not to consider a military strike against Libya for its alleged role in the bombing.

The Arab League issued a statement saying it was "gravely concerned with the threats" issued by Western countries against Libya.

(Continued on page 5)

Shamir says peace hopes hinge on his U.S. talks

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir says success of Middle East peace efforts depends on narrowing differences when he meets U.S. leader in Washington this week.

Mr. Shamir's hardline rhetoric against yielding occupied Arab land has infuriated U.S. President George Bush and Secretary of State James Baker who launched direct Arab-Israeli peace talks in Madrid last month.

"In these talks with American leaders, of course primarily with the president, we must achieve more and more coordination and identity if that is possible," Mr. Shamir said from Los Angeles in an Israeli Radio interview broadcast Sunday.

Mr. Bush and Mr. Baker maintain there is no greater obstacle to peace than the Shamir government's accelerated Jewish settlement of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

(Continued on page 5)



A masked Palestinian boy, using a spray, paints nationalist slogans on a wall in occupied Jerusalem

Palestinians debate political panels; municipality revived in Gaza City

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — Palestinian leaders debated Sunday over how to get organised for peace talks, while Gaza City residents readied to take control of their municipality for the first time in a decade.

The readiness by Gazans to form a broad-based city council appeared to be an outgrowth of the Madrid peace conference two weeks ago, at which Israel renewed its offer of Palestinian self-government.

But there was a rising debate among Palestinians over the formation of so-called "political committees" to prepare for self-government in various fields.

The committees appeared to be the work of Palestinians who want to pursue self-government aggressively, but they have been criticised as premature and badly organised.

In a leaflet distributed throughout the occupied territories Saturday, Fatah urged Palestinians to dismantle the committees, saying they lay "outside the path of the struggle."

Gassan Khatib, a member of the Palestinian delegation to

Madrid, said Sunday the formation of the committees came as a surprise.

He welcomed "popular initiatives to support the delegation," but said, "these committees are not designed and organised in the way that can meet the needs of the Palestinian delegation."

However, Ziad Abu Ziad, who served on the Palestinian advisory team to Madrid and was instrumental in setting up the political committees, said they "were initiated by people from inside the occupied territories and their aim is to support the peace process."

"I do not think that this aim contradicts any Palestinian individual, group or organisation," Mr. Abu Ziad told the Associated Press Sunday.

Some 100 Palestinians have been appointed to the committees in the past two weeks, but starting at the end of last week about a dozen resigned, citing personal reasons.

Israeli authorities disbanded the Gaza City municipal council in 1981, claiming it was uncooperative and overrun by the Pales-

tine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Hanan Rubin, spokeswoman for the "civil administration" that rules the occupied territories, said Israel had been discussing the transfer of rule for over a year, but that the Palestinians had balked.

"Now they have the courage, I think they are feeling that there is in the air now an acceptance for what they will do," Ms. Rubin said, adding that the peace process caused the change.

But he said the move was not connected with the peace talks and was not a step towards self-government.

Fayez Abu Rahme, an attorney and proposed head of the council, welcomed the step as a way to get more funding.

"Gaza used to get \$10 million from Saudi Arabia yearly and since 1980 we did not get a penny," Mr. Abu Rahme said.

He said he hoped to form the council by the end of the week.

Mr. Abu Rahme declined to say whether he considered the

(Continued on page 5)

Jordan complains to U.S. and Soviets of Israeli moves

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan Sunday complained to Washington and Moscow, co-sponsors of Middle East peace talks, about recent steps by Israel that it said threatened the peace process launched in Madrid on Oct. 30.

Foreign Minister Kamel Abu Jaber said Israel's recent vote to uphold occupation of the Golan Heights, continued settlement building in the occupied territories, and the threat of prosecution against a Palestinian leader were attempts to derail the Arab-Israeli peace talks.

"These practices form a policy that aims at emptying the peace process from its context and hence foiling it," Dr. Abu Jaber told the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Israel's parliament passed a draft resolution last Monday placing the Golan Heights off limits in the Middle East talks.

Later in the week Israeli police recommended that the Palestinian spokeswoman at the peace talks, Hanan Ashrawi, be tried for alleged contacts with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Dr. Abu Jaber said Jordan had asked its envoys to raise Israel's recent actions in the United Nations and the Arab League. He said Jordan's position was communicated to Washington through U.S. Ambassador in Amman Roger Harrison.

Peres sparks protest

The leader of Israel's largest opposition party drew protests Saturday when he said he would be willing to trade the Golan Heights for peace with Syria, Israel Radio said.

The radio said former Prime Minister Shimon Peres walked into a meeting of Labour Party hardliners and made the announcement. His remarks were greeted with protests.

Labour doves and hawks have been haggling during the last week over a new party platform. The party is due on Tuesday to begin a decisive conference over its political future.

The doves, led by several of the younger party-members, want to leave open the question of territorial compromise in exchange for peace.

Breakthrough seen at hand in hostage saga

BEIRUT (R) — A breakthrough in the hostage saga appeared at hand on Sunday. A Tehran newspaper said Church of England envoy Terry Waite and an American captive were likely to be freed soon.

The Tehran Times, close to Iran's Foreign Ministry and which has set the pace in accurately forecasting releases in Lebanon since August, said kidnappers "would probably give priority to a British hostage."

"Mr. Waite 52, was kidnapped on Jan. 20, 1987 while working for the release of U.S. captives. He became the last British hostage when 77-year-old Jack Mann was freed on Sept. 24."

The newspaper said the British and an American would be freed on humanitarian grounds. Four Americans, including longest-held Western hostage Terry Anderson, are still held in Lebanon.

Tehran Times forecasts were in the past followed by U.N. envoy Glastonwick Pico shuttling between Beirut and Damascus and then pro-Iranian kidnappers announcing an imminent release.

Mr. Waite, as one of the most valuable of the seven remaining Western hostages, had been expected to be among the last freed.

In London, the British Foreign Office said that it would be de-

reliable on moves to end the seven-year crisis since saying on Aug. 6 that an American and Briton would be released in days.

British John McCarthy was freed on Aug. 8 with a letter from the pro-Iranian Islamic Jihad urging U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar to arrange hostage-for-prisoner swaps.

American Edward Tracy followed him to freedom three days later.

"The Tehran Times' reports act as catalysts. They say, so far with surprising accuracy, what should happen while parties directly concerned are working on it," said a Western diplomat.

The newspaper reflected Iran's role as the leading power behind the releases in stages in exchange for Arabs held by Israel and word on Israeli servicemen missing in Lebanon.

Mohammad Khonsari, head of the Middle East Department at the Iran's Foreign Ministry, said in Beirut Wednesday he hoped for the imminent release of all hostages and prisoners held by Israel.

Israel has so far released two batches of Arab prisoners as part of the U.N.-mediated process to end the hostage problem.

The English-language Tehran Times said on Sept. 14 it expected more Westerners to be freed soon. Mr. Mann was set free 10 days later.

In its only error since August, the newspaper forecast on Sept. 26 that an American would be freed in three days.

Iraq denies siege of Kurdish north

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — The Iraqi government has denied blocking supplies of food to the Kurdish north and blamed "irresponsible Kurdish elements" for shortages.

Trade Minister Mohammad Mehdi Saleh told a news conference late Saturday the government was supplying rations to the north "and all Iraqi provinces." Government warehouses were brimming with wheat and barley, he said.

Foreign relief workers in northern Iraq have accused the government of mounting a blockade of food and fuel to pressure Kurdish rebel leaders into signing an autonomy agreement that has been on the table since August.

Kurds are divided over the deal. The minister made clear he was referring only to supplies of subsidised government rations which comprise about one third of the national daily food intake.

"Since Aug. 2, 1990, the ministry has been distributing food rations on a monthly basis to its citizens in all of the Iraqi governorates, including those within the autonomous region — Dohuk, Erbil and Sulaymaniyah — in equal quantities and of the same quality."

Rationing was introduced on Aug. 2, the date Iraq invaded Kuwait and was punished by the United Nations which imposed a world trade embargo. Families have to supplement rations with free market food, which costs up to 60 times what the authorities charge.

The minister made no com-

ment about commercial supplies of food to the north. But he said trucks delivering supplies had been sabotaged by "irresponsible Kurdish elements. They are not all irresponsible, but there are some."

Mr. Saleh said his ministry had hired Kurdish drivers to deliver the supplies "because our drivers cannot go there. They would be killed by bandits."

"If there exists any difficulty in supplying the autonomous region's governorates with food, then the irresponsible Kurdish elements are to blame because there are large quantities of food in the stores of these governorates."

He invited Western correspondents to visit the area to see for themselves.

Kurdish rebel leader Massoud Barzani warned Sunday the Kurds would fight back if Iraq launched a new offensive to crush their rebellion.

His warning followed reports by Kurdish sources that Iraq is massing troops along the 400-kilometre boundary of the Kurdish rebel-held region in northern Iraq.

Kurdish civilians were fleeing from two boundary towns after government troops warned them to leave or be evicted by force, said a statement by the Kurdish Democratic Party (KDP).

"Our decision last week to evacuate our forces from city centres was made as a gesture of goodwill to demonstrate our resolve for a peaceful settlement,"

(Continued on page 5)

Iraq accuses West of blocking cash for food and drugs

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq has accused the West of blocking its efforts to buy \$2 billion worth of urgently-needed food and medicine by refusing to unfreeze its foreign assets.

The allegation, by Trade Minister Mohammad Mehdi Saleh, was the opening shot in a war of words over a U.N. envoy's visit aimed at renewing the world organisation's mandate to help Iraqis still suffering nearly nine months after the Gulf war.

"If they (the U.N.) really feels they should help to minimise the suffering, they should lift sanctions. They should allow us to buy from abroad with our own money," Mr. Saleh said.

He said the U.S. government, which holds 75 per cent of Iraq's frozen funds, was trying to use food as a weapon and would not give Chase Manhattan Bank permission to release cash.

He levelled the same allegation against the British government and Midland Bank Plc. He promised to show Reuters a list of orders for medical supplies which had not met because the cash was not made available.

Baghdad says sanctions, imposed over Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in August last year, are killing thousands of children. Infant mortality has trebled and

food prices have soared because of the U.N. stranglehold on the economy.

Mr. Saleh told a news conference Saturday night that terms of the U.N. embargo allowed Baghdad to buy food and drugs with money from \$4 billion of funds frozen in foreign bank accounts.

But the United States, Britain and France — key members of the Western-Arab alliance which drove Iraq from Kuwait in February — had refused to use discretionary powers to unfreeze funds and the orders had not been filled.

"We have concluded contracts worth \$1.9 billion for food from different parts of the world," under U.N. resolution 687, which authorised such purchases, the minister said.

"But never have any of these governments responded by unfreezing our own money to minimise human suffering, so these contracts are just paper," he declared.

The U.N.'s special envoy to the region, Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, is due in Baghdad Tuesday to try to extend a memorandum of understanding allowing U.N. aid agencies to work in Iraq to help the most vulnerable people. The arrangement is due to expire on Dec. 31.

U.N. relief workers are in Iraq to settle, clothe and feed Kurds and Shiites whose rebellions after the Gulf war were crushed by the army.

Senior U.N. sources say the Iraqi government believed it would hasten the end of sanctions by allowing U.N. agencies to operate and by cooperating with U.N. experts seeking to destroy Baghdad's nuclear, chemical, ballistic and biological weapons.

But instead the U.N. approved Resolution 706, which would allow Iraq to limit quantities of oil to import food and drugs under strict U.N. supervision and repay war dues.

The sources said Iraq was furious at the approval of 706. It would tell Prince Sadruddin it would reject the document and press to be allowed to sell oil under previous resolutions.

Under these, it could sell oil with the buyer deducting 30 per cent for a U.N. fund to pay war reparations. Procedures under 706 are long and complex. They entail U.N. inspectors in Iraq verifying that food and drugs have been bought and properly distributed.

"Resolution 706 will turn Iraqis into refugees. Iraq will resist Iraqis will not sell their freedom for food," Mr. Saleh said.

Sudan imposes Islamic dress code

KHARTOUM (AP) — Sudan's military leader Lieutenant-General Omar Hassan Al-Bashir announced Saturday that he is taking over the ministry of information and culture to make the mass media conform with Islamic Sharia and virtue.

The official Sudan news agency said Gen. Bashir made the announcement in a mass women rally designed to show women's support to adherence to Islamic code to female dress.

"The media was not reflecting the true face of the national salvation revolution which opted to adhere to the Sharia (law) of Allah," Gen. Bashir said referring to his fundamentalist junta which toppled the government of Sadeq Al Mahdi June 30, 1989.

In his address to the rally, Gen. Bashir ordered Sudanese officials to oblige all women working in government offices to adhere to the Islamic dress.

He also ordered all education institutions in the country to oblige girl students and women teachers to wear the Islamic dress.

Gen. Bashir's order was the latest in a series of moves he actually began to implement late last year in the predominantly Muslim north.

This summer, for the first time since 1984, thieves were sentenced to have limbs amputated under the Sharia, Islam's 1,412-year-old legal and penal code. In Khartoum, buses have been segregated by sex, with women sitting in the front.

Last week, Al-Qur'at Al-Musallaha, the junta's mouthpiece, reported that in addition to reporting Islamic dress for women, the government plans to restrict their places of work to hotels, hairdressers and stores.

Brigadier Mohammad Saeed, the military governor of this capital, said on Sudan's television on Tuesday that committees have been set up to enforce Islamic codes of female dress.

Iran slams U.S. for seeking to bar nuclear technology

NICOSIA (AP) — Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani on Sunday condemned the United States for "forcing" other countries not to cooperate with Tehran on nuclear projects, the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported.

"America has frankly and boldly announced that the Islamic republic of Iran has no right to use nuclear technology even for non-military goals," Mr. Rafsanjani said.

He referred to the big powers as "monopolising and impeding parties," the agency said. It paraphrased him as condemning Washington for "forcing" other countries not to cooperate with Iran.

The agency quoted him as saying the United States was openly pressing and threatening countries such as China and India.

On Friday, U.S. State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said the United States has asked India not to go ahead with a reported plan to supply a nuclear reactor to Iran.

Mr. Boucher said Assistant Secretary of State Edward Djerejian raised the issue with India's ambassador on Thursday and Friday.

"The United States has urged all nuclear supplier countries, in-

cluding India, to avoid any form of nuclear cooperation with Iran, even under safeguards, because there is not adequate evidence that Iran is genuinely committed to the exclusively peaceful uses of nuclear energy," Mr. Boucher said.

Meanwhile, U.S. Secretary of State James Baker was expected to raise the issue of nuclear technology transfers during his current trip to China.

Recent accounts of Chinese sales of nuclear technology and equipment to Iran raised questions about the Peking government's role in helping Third World countries develop nuclear weapons.

U.S. military officials have expressed concern about a "military axis" involving Iran, Pakistan and China.

Peking is believed to have assisted Pakistan in its pursuit of an atom bomb, and has admitted selling a mini-reactor and an electromagnetic separator to Iran.

But it has maintained that the technology can be used for research and peaceful purposes only.

The head of Iran's Atomic Energy Organisation earlier this month denied the U.S. intelligence reports alleging Iran was working to build a nuclear bomb.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Qatar withdraws from oil show in Bahrain

NICOSIA (R) — Qatar withdrew from the Middle East Oil Show in neighbouring Bahrain Saturday because the island's authorities had not allowed most of its exhibits into the country, the Qatar General Petroleum Corporation (OGPC) said. "To our surprise we were not allowed to have most of the exhibits enter Bahrain," the OGPC said. Qatar government officials and the show organisers were not available for comment. Relations between Bahrain and Qatar have deteriorated since the end of the Gulf war over a cluster of potentially oil-rich islands. Qatar took the issue to the International Court of Justice in the Hague last July after five years of inconclusive Saudi mediation.

Djibouti says rebel attack repulsed

NAIROBI (R) — The Djibouti army repulsed a rebel attack on a barracks in the Red Sea coastal town of Obok, Djibouti radio reported Sunday. The radio, monitored in Nairobi, said the army inflicted heavy losses on the attackers in Friday's incident. It did not say whether there had been any government casualties. Djibouti ordered a general mobilisation last week to reinforce its 2,500-strong army after announcing that the country's integrity was under threat from anti-government rebels. The French army, which maintains a detachment in Djibouti, evacuated 15 French nationals from the Tadjourah region, in the north of the country, because of unrest in the area. Last week Djibouti Interior Minister Ahmad Dulah Barreh said the army was in control of Tadjourah after armed groups attacked military bases there.

Turkish parliament elects new speaker

ANKARA (R) — Husametdin Cindoruk, a former leader of the True Path Party (DYP) has been elected as speaker of the Turkish parliament, state-run television reported Saturday. "The time has come to establish democracy permanently in Turkey," Mr. Cindoruk, a 58-year-old lawyer, told parliament after his election. Mr. Cindoruk led the DYP, which won last month's general elections, from 1985 until 1987. Known as one of Prime Minister-designate Suleyman Demirel's most trusted aides and a forceful orator, Mr. Cindoruk entered political life in 1952 and served in the Democrat Party and the Justice Party. He was elected by 286 deputies in a third round of voting in the 450-seat house.

Ethiopia says order restored in city

ADDIS ABABA (R) — The Ethiopian government said on Sunday that order had been restored in Dire Dawa, the country's second-largest city, and that a curfew was in force after inter-communal clashes last week. In an official statement, it said the clashes had killed 25 and injured 164. It described the unofficial reports of 61 deaths and 300 injured as exaggerated. The government statement accused local political groups in the area of deliberately provoking their opponents. It said 60 ringleaders had been arrested, and 400 guns, 29 hand grenades and 8,000 rounds of ammunition seized. Political organisations in the area have been forbidden to carry arms during rallies and other meetings. Residents of Dire Dawa, in eastern Ethiopia, said violence began Wednesday when members of the Oromo tribe, who dominate the area, tried to disrupt a meeting of Amhara people. There have been inter-communal clashes in different areas since the dictator Mengistu Haile Mariam fled last May when troops of the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF) took the capital. The Oromo is the largest of the country's many tribal groups, outnumbering the Tigrayan people who dominate the EPRDF.

Israel to allow prison visitors

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — The families of Arabs held at Israel's Ketzioh detention camp will be able to regularly visit prisoners there for the first time from Monday, an army spokeswoman said. The visits will be coordinated through the International Committee of the Red Cross and Israel's "Civil Administration" which governs the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. About 6,000 Palestinians are detained at Ketzioh, including about 1,000 held without trial. The spokeswoman said the army had conducted a series of experimental family visits before deciding on the new prison policy. Inmates had previously only been allowed visits by their attorneys. The decision was seen as a gesture of goodwill towards Palestinians following the opening of peace talks in Madrid last month. Palestinians had been asking for the release of prisoners and the easing of restrictions in the occupied territories.

Troops confront rival groups in Mogadishu

MOGADISHU (R) — Armoured cars and troops in full combat gear stalked out government buildings, the airport and the radio station in Somalia's capital Sunday in an apparent show of strength against the forces of General Mohammed Farah Aideded. Gen. Aideded is the main rival of interim Somali President Ali Mahdi Mohammed in his United Somali Congress (USC). More than 1,000 civilians were killed in battles in September between rival USC groups, and the troop deployments boosted fears of a new outbreak of factional fighting. The crisis follows stormy scenes at a meeting of the USC central committee which began last week. USC sources said Gen. Aideded's supporters on the committee were contesting the legality of the interim government headed by Ali Mahdi Mohammed. A peace meeting in Djibouti in July agreed on formation of the interim government, but Gen. Aideded's supporters say it had no mandate to do so. USC sources said Mr. Ali Mahdi's faction in the committee was trying to remove Gen. Aideded from his post as USC chairman, but did not have the required two-thirds majority to do this. Gen. Aideded did not attend the USC committee meeting. Conflict between Mr. Ali Mahdi and Gen. Aideded has mounted since the government was sworn in early last month, bringing in representatives of many of the armed factions operating in the overthrow of President Mohammad Siad Barre in January. The USC central committee convened after mounting criticism of Gen. Aideded, whose forces recently prevented the landing of an aircraft carrying a delegation headed by Andrea Barnaso, Italian under-secretary for foreign affairs. Gen. Aideded has demanded that Mr. Ali Mahdi resign to enable all groups in the country to decide a future policy for Somalia.

More U.N. hunting in Iraq

BAHRAIN (AP) — The U.N. inventory of Iraqi chemical weapons units has bypassed the 125,000 mark, but U.N. inspectors are still going into Baghdad to hunt down more potential stocks.

Karen Jansen, a U.S. expert currently at regional headquarters of the U.N. special commission, was assembling what she described Saturday as an 18-member team of "very experienced" experts from 11 countries.

The team is scheduled to fly to Baghdad Monday. It would be the first combined chemical-biological team of the nearly 20 teams that have gone into Baghdad since May to pursue the U.N. Security Council demand for elimination of Iraqi weapons of mass destruction.

"There are a lot of unanswered

questions," Ms. Jansen told the Associated Press, speaking more about the biological part of her mission.

Ms. Jansen was on two biological teams that went into Iraq on previous occasions. She noted that the Iraqis initially had denied they had a biological weapons programme, but later admitted to a programme for the production of bacteriological agents for research.

Biological teams have made several unannounced visits to pharmaceutical sites, some of which had not been declared, when Iraq acknowledged research at a small facility at Salman Park, south of Baghdad.

These included vaccine production facilities, a pharmaceutical plant and specially designed facilities for work with hazardous

human and animal disease-causing agents. They noted that Iraq did not conduct research into vaccines or antidotes to biological weapons.

They also cultured deadly bacteria, such as anthrax and botulin, and recommended a close monitor of plants that can have "dual purpose."

"It's very possible that we may not have the full picture yet (of the biological weapons programme)," Ms. Jansen said. "We'll be in for 13 days. Our mission is to go to a number of undeclared sites as part of the process of continuing to verify the Iraqi declarations of their programmes."

Ms. Jansen said forming a combined team was dictated by the nature of the sites specified for their mission. She did not elaborate.

Hersh was hoaxed over Maxwell, papers assert

LONDON (AP) — A well-known hoaxer claimed he fooled investigative journalist Seymour Hersh into believing new "evidence" that publisher Robert Maxwell had close ties to the Israeli leadership, newspapers said Sunday.

Confronted by the allegations, Mr. Hersh admitted in the reports that he should have checked certain facts himself and not relied on his publisher.

Matthew Evans, chairman of Faber and Faber, told a news conference Nov. 12 that Mr. Hersh had fresh evidence Mr. Maxwell was involved in the kidnapping of Israeli nuclear technician Mordechai Vanunu by the Mossad in 1986.

The Mossad is Israel's espionage agency.

Mr. Vanunu, a nuclear technician who revealed Israel's nuclear secrets to the Sunday Times, is serving an 18-year sentence in Israel for treason and espionage stemming from the disclosures.

Joe Flynn, who used the alias Patrick Begg, told the Sunday Times, the Sunday Express and News of the World that he provided the evidence of the plot to Mr. Evans and it was bogus. And it was not free — Mr. Flynn said Faber and Faber paid him £1,260 (£2,230) for the information.

"A well-known con man fooled Hersh, and Faber and Faber, his British publisher, into believing that Maxwell helped orchestrate an elaborate Israeli intelligence

plot," the Sunday Times said.

In "The Samson Option," released last month, Mr. Hersh claimed that Mr. Maxwell had close links with Israel's leadership in the book, he also accused Mr. Maxwell of plotting to discredit Mr. Vanunu, specifically because we feared Mr. Vanunu would disclose that Israel had deployed nuclear land mines along the Golan Heights, and of alerting Israel to Mr. Vanunu's whereabouts in London.

The book is about Israel's nuclear weapons programme. Only a few passages mention Mr. Maxwell, who died off the Canary Islands on Nov. 5, at age 68.

Mr. Hersh told the Sunday Times he regretted not checking the facts by meeting Begg himself. "I accept it was this man Flynn we were dealing with and that he is a con man," the Pulitzer prize-winning American journalist said.

Mr. Flynn is the author of numerous ruses against British newspapers, including the Sunday Times. His most celebrated hoax was bilking publisher Rupert Murdoch out of £25,000 (£44,250) for a pair of used shoes that he claimed had belonged to Jimmy Hoffa, the slain BOSS of the U.S. Teamster's Union.

The British-born hoaxer has served two prison terms for fraud.

Mr. Flynn told the newspapers that he plotted his hoax against Mr. Hersh after Mr. Maxwell and



Seymour Hersh



Mordechai Vanunu

his former Daily Mirror foreign editor Nicholas Davies, whom Mr. Hersh alleged was involved in arms dealing, filed libel suits against Mr. Hersh.

Mr. Maxwell died in bizarre circumstances, his body found floating in the Atlantic, hours after he was reported missing from his luxury yacht.

At the news conference with Mr. Evans was Member of Parliament Rupert Allison, who said Mr. Maxwell knew three days before his death that Mr. Hersh intended to release the additional information. Mr. Allison has pressed for a government investigation of Mr. Maxwell's alleged links to Israeli intelligence.

At the news conference, Mr. Evans read a statement from Mr. Hersh that said a private detective was asked by two Daily Mirror reporters to tap the telephones of journalists at the Sunday Times, who were working with Mr. Vanunu. Mr. Vanunu later disappeared from London with Cindy Hanin, a Mossad agent.

The Sunday Times said Mr. Hersh confirmed that Mr. Evans had flown to Amsterdam to meet a private detective named Patrick Begg on Oct. 29.

Mr. Flynn said he decided to reveal that he masqueraded as Begg because Mr. Hersh had broken a promise and gone public with the claims.

Pan-Islamic organisation throws weight behind Syria

JEDDAH (AP) — The 45-member Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) has strongly condemned an Israeli parliament resolution that urged the government not to negotiate over the future of the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights.

"Based on a false assumption, the resolution is a clear proof of Israel's recalcitrant policy and manoeuvres aimed at forcing the Arabs to boycott the forthcoming session of the peace talks and consequently to hold them responsible for the failure of these talks," said the statement issued late Saturday.

The return of the strategic Golan Heights is expected to be Syria's key demand in bilateral talks with Israel, which seized the Heights in the 1967 war and "annexed" them in 1981.

The OIC, headquartered in the Saudi Arabian port city of Jeddah, is the political umbrella for the world's estimated one billion Muslims. It is preparing for the Dec. 9-12 summit conference of the leaders of member states, and the statement presaged a strong

anti-Israeli resolution by the Islamic World.

In the statement from OIC Secretary-General Hamid Al Gubadi, the organisation said it was "profoundly indignant about the negative Israeli reaction about the first round of the Madrid peace conference, which is aimed at obstructing the peace process."

It said the parliament resolution, passed by 26-12 margin last Monday, "has no basis in law and constitutes a glaring violation of the U.N. charter and the relevant resolutions of the world body."

The organisation also condemned Israel's repeated raids on South Lebanon, the continued building of settlements in occupied Arab lands and what it called the levelling of threats against members of the Palestinian delegation attending the Madrid conference.

It appealed to the United States and the Soviet Union, sponsors of the Madrid conference, to adopt appropriate measures to counter Israel's practices and to force the Jewish state to abide by the peace process.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME TWO
18:00 Le Roi de Patagonie
18:30 News in French
19:15 Weekly Sports Magazine
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:30 News in Arabic
20:30 Hey Dad
21:10 Assignment
21:30 News in English
22:20 Gibraltar Fire

PRAYER TIMES

06:30 Fajr
07:54 (Sunrise) Dhuha
11:19 Dhuhr
14:19 Asr
16:45 Maghrib
18:04 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Switich Tel. 510740
Assumption of God Church, Tel. 637285
St. Joseph Church Tel. 604990
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 674480
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terrence Church Tel. 622666
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541

Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 625433
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 772661
Syrian Orthodox Church Tel. 771751
Assumption International Church Tel. 635326
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811285
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Tel. 625264, 654532
Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.
It will be partly cloudy and winds will be light and variable, tending to southeasterly moderate at times. In Amman, winds will be northerly moderate and sea calm.
Min./Max. temp.
Amman 11/21
Aqaba 17/28
Djersa 9/24
Jordan Valley 19/28

YACHTING

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 20, Aqaba 27. Forecast readings: Amman 65, per cent, Aqaba 30 per cent.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Abdel Aziz Toloun 783708
Dr. Wael Dammari 774800
Dr. Sabah Tawous 898903
Dr. Khalil Jabari 740740
First pharmacy 651912
Fardous pharmacy 778336
Al Aqsa pharmacy 637025
Naimath pharmacy 623672
Al Salem pharmacy 636730
Yasouf pharmacy 644943
Shamsat pharmacy 637660
BRID:
Dr. Ali Al Omeri (-)
Al Shamsat pharmacy 278522
ZARQA:
Dr. Ali Al Omeri (-)
Khalil pharmacy 983417

EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111
Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 891228
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 630321
Hotel Complaints 605800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 897467
Amman Municipality 787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone 661176
Rajab 623101
Abdell Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 773111
Jordan Jordan 774111
Water Authority 660100

HOSPITALS

Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power Company 636881
RJ Flight Information 08-53200
Queen Alia Int'l. Airport 08-53280
Rm Sina Hospital (09)986732
Al Hikma Modern Hospital (09)909090
RUBED:
Princess Basma Hospital (02)275555
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272775
Bn Al Nafes Hospital (02)247108
AQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111
AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32
Khadija Maternity, J. Amn 644281/6
Alkhil Maternity, J. Amn 64241/2
Italian, Al-Muhajreen 624262
Malha, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shamsat 664171/4
Shamsat Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Al-Muhammed Hospital 667277/9
The British, Abdullah 666127/7
Al-Ahli, Abdullah 66146/8
Italian, Al-Muhajreen 77101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 77511/26
Army, Marjeh 891611/5
Queen Alia Hospital 6224050
Amal Hospital 674155
ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983233
Zarqa National Hospital (09)905640

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) Information Department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
08:00 Sama (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

12:30 Cairo (MS)
13:00 Abu Dhabi, Doha (QF)
19:00 Paris (AF)

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
06:15 Beirut (RJ)
11:30 Montreal New York (RJ)
12:15 Istanbul (RJ)
12:15 London (RJ)
12:45 Frankfurt (RJ)
13:00 Cairo (RJ)
13:30 Yerevan (RJ)
14:30 Moscow (RJ)
18:45 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
21:15 Moscow (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

12:30 Cairo (MS)
13:00 Abu Dhabi, Doha (QF)
19:00 Paris (AF)

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in Jds per kg
Apple 600/500
Banana 500/450
Beans (Mashkama) 500/500
Beans 850/650
Cabbage 160/120
Cauliflower 160/120
Cucumbers (large) 100/120
Cucumbers (small) 360/320
Eggplant 280/220
Garlic 800/700
Grape 160/120
Grapes 300/400
Lemon 180/120
Mango (large) 160/120
Mango (small) 350/300
Olive 850/750
Onion (dry) 170/120
Pepper (red) 350/280
Pepper (green) 450/400
Potato 300/250
Sage 800/500
Spinach 220/180
Sweet maize 270/230
Tomatoes 400/350
Watermelon 160/120

Queen Noor attends Armed Forces graduation ceremony

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Sunday attended the graduation ceremony of a group of female officers recruited by the Jordanian Armed Forces who have just completed their training courses. The ceremony included parades of the graduates, who marched in front of the Royal platform and a speech by the commander of the corps. The queen welcomed the graduates and paid tribute to His Majesty King Hussein's efforts to boost

the capabilities of the Jordanian Armed Forces. Towards the end of the ceremony, the Queen distributed diplomas to the graduates and awards to those excelling in their courses. Present at the ceremony was His Royal Highness Prince Talal Ben Mohamed, the King's military secretary, Army Chief of Staff Field Marshal Fathi Abu Taleb and Armed Forces senior officers together with an invited audience and relatives of the graduates.

New heliport to be inaugurated at Marka

AMMAN (J.T.) — A heliport for police helicopters at Marka will be inaugurated Monday at a ceremony to be attended by Jordanian officials and public security officers as well as German Ambassador to Jordan Heinrich Reimers and embassy staff.

The police helicopters operating in the country all came as a gift from Germany to help Jordan combat drug trafficking operations and prevent smuggling across its borders with neighbouring countries. The helicopters were donated to Jordan through an agreement signed by the two sides in December 1988.

In September, Ambassador Reimers presented PSD Director General Fadel Ali with a gift of three vehicles especially equipped to complement the helicopters' work in combating contraband activities. A statement issued at the time said that the gift was made in support of the PSD's efforts to fight smuggling at the regional and international levels.

In June, the border police, backed by the police helicopters, foiled a major drug trafficking

operation and seized 800 kilograms of hashish. The helicopters have also been used to monitor and control traffic along main streets in Amman, especially during rush hours.

Discussions on means of promoting German-Jordanian cooperation in police work were held Sunday by a senior official from the German Interior Ministry and Gen. Fadel Ali.

G. Roman, an adviser to the German interior minister who is on a visit here, discussed with officials types of technical assistance the PSD needs, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Mr. Roman, who is accompanied by a two-member team representing the German Interior Ministry and the German police helicopter units, will be among those attending the ceremony Monday at Marka.

Gen. Fadel Ali paid tribute to Germany for its continued assistance to the PSD.

The German visitors will be touring police facilities and meeting officers to review the PSD's development programmes before concluding their visit to Jordan Friday.

Development of Jordanian industrial sector praised

MUTAH (Petra) — A number of Arab and foreign ambassadors and commercial and economic attaches accredited to Jordan Sunday visited the first Jordanian industries exhibition held in the south of Jordan.

Taking part in the exhibition, which was organised by the Amman Chamber of Industry (ACI) in cooperation with Mutah University and chambers of commerce in the various districts and governorates of south Jordan, were 75 Jordanian industrial companies.

The delegation was accom-

panied by the ACI's president, Khalid Abu Hassan, who said that Jordanian industry has developed in quality and quantity. He added that it currently accounts for more than 22 per cent of the gross domestic product (GDP) and contributes to 92 per cent of Jordanian exports.

He added that Jordanian industry is employing 80,000 workers and is exporting its products to some 68 countries all over the world.

The diplomatic corp members voiced their satisfaction with the level Jordanian industry has reached.



ROYAL CELEBRATION — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Sunday attended a major festival organised by the residents of the northern town of Ramtha to mark His Majesty King Hussein's 56th birthday. A major address was delivered by district Governor Mohammad Al Asad, who, outlined the various developments in the district and in Jordan under the King's rule.

Mayor Fawwaz Al Zoubi also delivered a speech on the occasion. The festival included national dances, songs, and a number of folkloric performances by local troupes. Princess Basma earlier opened a nursery run by a local society and an exhibition of photographs at a local school, also organised on the King's birthday. The Princess was accompanied by several senior officials.

Town official again complains of odors from waste treatment plant

ZARQA (J.T.) — The municipality of Duleil in the Zarqa Governorate has again raised the question of bad odors coming out of the Khirbet Al Samra waste water treatment plant located nearby and appealed to authorities to address the problem.

Duleil mayor Akram Al Awad said that citizens in his town are also suffering from the smell coming from the numerous cattle and sheep farms set up within the municipality's perimeter.

Mr. Awad, who sent the complaint to the Zarqa governor, said that the presence of four major farms within the town plus 60 more on the periphery of Duleil, all set up at random, was hazardous to public health. He said that the farms had been set up without knowledge of the con-

sequences to the environment and public health.

Two months ago, Duleil municipality raised the same complaint with the concerned authorities and the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment.

The Zarqa Agriculture Department director said that the cattle farms in Duleil were old. They were built before the town came into being, he said. Furthermore his department has stopped issuing new licences for more farms within Duleil or outside the town's outlying areas to prevent an aggravation of the situation, he added.

However, he said, the municipality of Duleil has the power to stop any farm from being created

within its region even if feasibility studies had been completed and approval obtained from the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment.

He said his department was taking steps to prevent any worsening of the situation.

Deputy Governor of Zarqa Ghaleb Izmeqqa said in a statement that a public health committee has been intensifying its inspection tours of the region to study the situation and conduct studies designed to find solutions to the problem. He said the committee is trying to locate the sources of contamination to the environment and will submit a report on its findings and recommendations for appropriate solutions.



Jordan Cooperative Association president Jamal Bedour addresses the audience Sunday at a seminar on the role of cooperative societies in the Arab World (Petra photo)

Gap between food production and consumption must be bridged, officials say

AMMAN (J.T.) — Speakers at the opening session of a seminar on the role of cooperatives in ensuring food security in the Arab World Sunday emphasised the need to promote food production and bridge the gap between production and consumption.

The seminar, organised by the Jordan Cooperative Organisation (JCO) in cooperation with the Arab Federation for Food Industries (AFFI) and the Arab Cooperatives Federation (ACF), is discussing ways to promote techniques designed to boost food production and farming work to ensure food security.

Deputising for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Senate member Khalil Al Salem opened the meetings with an address underlining the importance of joint Arab efforts to meet the objective of food security, an objective that can be achieved partly through the role of the Arab cooperative movement, he said.

The past decade witnessed a widening of the gap between food production and consumption in the Arab World with the result that the Arabs now import \$25 billion worth of foodstuffs annually, Dr. Salem said.

The food situation in Jordan and Palestine has been aggravated, Dr. Salem said, with the return of nearly 300,000 citizens who had spent most of their lives in Kuwait and other Gulf states. The return of the expatriates has placed an additional burden on Jordan, which is struggling to ensure sufficient food quantities at reasonable prices, Dr. Salem said.

He called for an immediate end to the blockade on Iraq and urged Arab countries to launch an inter-

national campaign that would ensure sufficient food and medicines for the Iraqi people.

Ensuring food security for Arab citizens, Dr. Salem said, is a national duty and the objective should be reached as soon as possible. His views were supported by JCO Director General Jamal Bedour, who said that the Arab World should be transformed into a food producing area by boosting individual and national efforts. Food security should be the first priority for the Arab states, which currently face a serious food shortage, he said.

In reviewing the basic requirements for agricultural development in the area, Mr. Bedour said that Arab states possess 133 million hectares of arable land, but only 41 million hectares are utilised to produce food.

Should the current trend of food imports continue, he said, the Arab World will end up buying \$60 billion worth of foodstuffs annually by the year 2000.

Mr. Bedour also criticised the amount of investments in agriculture and said that while funds are being allocated to other less important areas, only \$2 billion had been invested in agricultural schemes over the past two decades, about 9 per cent of total Arab investments.

Mr. Bedour stressed the importance of the Arab cooperatives movement in promoting the food production process. He said the Arab World has 20,000 such cooperative societies with a membership of 20 million.

Falah Jaber, secretary general of the AFFI, said that despite the increasing amounts of food imported by the Arab World, nearly one million Arab children die annually because of malnutrition. Also, one third of the Arab people do not acquire sufficient food.

The organisers of the three-day seminar said that the participants will discuss 15 research and working papers dealing with the food security problem and the role of Arab cooperatives in helping achieve food security.

Industrialists, government reach compromise on implementation of tax

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Finance, which introduced a consumer tax earlier this month that infuriated industrialists, has reached a compromise agreement with the Amman Chamber of Industry on the matter, according to officials.

Both sides will hold periodic meetings to smooth over any problem that could arise, they said.

Agreement on the compromise came at a meeting held by representatives from the two sides, who expressed desire to maintain close cooperation to safeguard the national interests. In accordance with the compromise agreement, factories will not pay consumer tax if they had already paid duty on the primary goods and raw materials used in the manufacture of the products to prevent dual taxation on the same commodity.

Also, the Ministry of Finance will not post customs officials at the factories to monitor production. Instead, ministry officials will examine the factories' books

for that matter, according to the agreement.

Furthermore, the Ministry of Finance agreed to exempt commodities for which contracts had been concluded to be supplied to the civil, military and Civil Service Consumer Corporation stores, according to the agreement.

The consumer tax can be paid to the Ministry of Finance at the beginning of the coming year, an official said.

In last week's meeting with industrialists, Finance Minister Basel Jaraneh defended the government's imposition of the consumer tax and said that building a sound economy requires a reduction in consumption and a narrowing of the budget deficit.

Mr. Jaraneh, who led the ministry's team to the negotiations on the compromise agreement with the industrialists, said that a joint committee from the ministry and the Chamber of Industry will pursue the implementation of the agreement and

will initiate cooperation to overcome other problems related to taxation, raw materials and customs tariffs.

The chamber's president, Khalid Abu Hassan, thanked the minister for his cooperation in solving the problem, which had irked industrialists and brought about discontent and signs of early lay-offs of workers in some industries.

The consumer tax was considered part of the country's austerity measures included in the agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) over the restructuring of Jordan's economy. The Kingdom, acting under IMF directives, is trying to slash its \$8 billion foreign debt and revive its aid-dependent economy.

The Jordanian industrialists had showed their opposition not only to the 10 per cent consumer tax, but also to a government proposed procedure to decrease customs duty on a series of imported products.

PSD opens new police stations, patrol centres

AMMAN (Petra) — The Public Security Department (PSD) Sunday opened five newly created police stations and seven highway patrol centres in various governorates in the course of celebrating His Majesty King Hussein's 56th birthday.

A PSD statement said that the five police stations were set up at Ruseifeh, Jabal Abiad, Shobak, Kura and Bal'ama. The new police stations were built in accordance with modern standards, including units for criminal investigations, issuing licences, alien and foreigners divisions, juvenile sections and wings for local council meetings. The statement said that the police departments were now enlisting the help of the local community to help solve socio-economic issues.

Centres for patrol units were set up in Zarqa, Maan, Irbid, Tafleeh, Mafrq, northern badia and Aqaba, according to the statement. The new centres, the statement said, are needed to monitor and control traffic along highways which are always busy with trucks and other vehicles.

The PSD, the statement said, was trying to create a vast new network to control traffic, along the highways from Ramtha in the north to Aqaba in the south.

Apart from the police stations and patrol centres, the PSD also opened workshops for repairing vehicles at the Maan, Aqaba, Safawi, Sarif and Marfaq regions. The workshops are aimed at providing service to vehicles used by the police units in these areas, the statement said.

According to the statement, the new facilities comprise at least 14,422 square metres and cost around JD 1.6 million.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

King congratulates Oman

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Sunday sent a congratulatory cable to Sultan Qabous Ben Said of Oman congratulating him on his country's national day. The King wished the sultan continued good health and happiness and the Oman people further progress and prosperity. The King also praised the great achievements Oman has made in all fields, saying that such achievements were aimed at improving the welfare of the Omani people and laying the foundations of a modern state.

Minister opens Civil Defence Centre

AMMAN (Petra) — As part of Jordan's celebrations of His Majesty King Hussein's 56th birthday, Interior Minister Jawdat Al Shoul Sunday opened the Civil Defence Centre in Al Manarah Housing Estate.

Deputy quits Islamic Bloc

AMMAN (Petra) — Member of the Lower House of Parliament Ziad Abu Mahfouz Sunday said he was withdrawing from the Islamic Bloc of the Lower House of Parliament. In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Mr. Abu Mahfouz said he sent a letter to this effect to the Islamic Bloc, adding that starting Sunday he is an independent member of the House.



PALESTINIAN EXHIBITION — Under the patronage of Palestine National Council President Sheik Ahmed Yassin Al Sayeh, the American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC), in cooperation with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), has opened an exhibition of drawings by children in commemoration of the third anniversary of the declaration of the Palestinian state at the Royal Cultural Centre. The drawings, which depict the hardships, show the ideas and frustrations brought about by the years of occupation. The exhibition will last until Thursday. The exhibition will tour several Jordanian cities before being taken to the United States, where the paintings will be donated to President George Bush.

On the occasion of His Majesty King Hussein's Birthday

AL ISTIKLAL CLUB continues to present

Ukrainia Ballet Group

in concert



at the Palace of Culture Al Hussein Sports City at 8 p.m. on:
Monday Nov. 18 — Carmen Ballet
Tuesday Nov. 19 — Giselle Ballet
Wednesday Nov. 20 — Swan Lake Ballet
Friday Nov. 22 — Nut Cracker Ballet
Tickets are available at:
— Al Hussein Sports City
— Phoenix Cafeteria and Gallery, Gardens Street.
— Zahrat Al Madlen Mill — Jubilee Circle.
— Abia and Antar Stores, Jabal Luweibdeh.
— Safeway International.
— Al Tawil Tours Agency, near Safeway.
— Geneva Coffee Shop.
— Music Box / Al Swaffiyeh, the Eighth Circle.
— Al Shallal Restaurant, the Gardens Street.
— Rana Pizza, opposite Al Ra'i Newspaper.
— Rawan Wool, Gardens Street-Da'san Centre.
— Jerusalem International Hotel
— Ismail Salon — at Al Hussein Sports City, tel. 666712

Jordan to integrate Hepatitis B in national vaccination programme

By Maha Addasi
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordan became one of 50 countries who have taken the first steps in the fight against Hepatitis B when they decided to integrate the vaccine in its national programme, sources said.

As a result of a conference, entitled "Control of Hepatitis B in Developing Countries," in Yaounde, Cameroon in October 1991, Jordan and participants in the conference decided to devote resources to eliminate one of the world's major diseases which although preventable has a burden that exceeds that of AIDS, and affects 1 billion people world wide, sources said.

"Jordan has already started to instate the Hepatitis B vaccination programme," said Ala' Toukan, dean of the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Jordan and the representative of Jordan at the Cameroon conference. "The Middle East as a whole is one of the leading areas to declare its intent to start this vaccination programme."

"Jordan is the first in the region in taking action to eliminate a disease that is endemic," he said.

As an outcome of the Cameroon conference, a declaration was made stating that over 300 million people are chronically infected with the Hepatitis B virus who are now at significant risk of death from liver cancer and cirrhosis.

The declaration also stated that this disease is acquired in childhood and can be prevented by vaccination near birth. Also, the statement said the vaccine against Hepatitis B can be added directly to the Expanded Programme on Immunisation (EPI).

Combining the Hepatitis B vaccine with other EPI vaccines does not diminish their efficacy, the declaration stated.

The conference was sponsored by the World Health Organisation (WHO), the International Task Force on Hepatitis B Immunisation, the Programme for Appropriate Technology in Health and the University of Yaounde.

The conference will submit the declaration to the World Health Assembly in May 1992. The declaration basically underscores the dangers of Hepatitis B and the fact that a safe and affordable vaccine to combat this disease exists.

U.S. feedgrain arrives in Aqaba

AMMAN (J.T.) — A shipment of 50,000 metric tonnes of U.S. donated corn arrived at the port of Aqaba November 16 and is now being unloaded. This is the second of five shipments totalling 241,000 metric tonnes of feedgrain donated by the U.S. to Jordan in 1991. The first shipment of 41,000 metric tonnes of corn and sorghum arrived in Aqaba in early October. The third shipment, consisting of 50,000 metric tons of sorghum, is expected to arrive in Aqaba on November 28.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation
Established 1975
مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية

Chairman of the Board of Directors:
MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Director General:
MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:
GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171/6, 670141-4

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.
Subscription and advertising rates are available from the
Jordan Times advertising department.

Weekly Political Pulse

By Waleed Sadi

Jordan's 'windows' to the world need urgent support

THERE is an apparent unanimity in the country that peace in the Middle East is just around the corner. The euphoria about the prospects of peace between the Arabs and Israel may be a bit exaggerated for the time being but it is not such a far-fetched dream either. To be sure, there are enough reasons or rather justifications to warrant this dreaming about peace in the region for one to begin building on them already. To wait till peace is completely within reach before embarking on the necessary restructuring of the future course of the country would be utterly foolhardy and shortsighted. If our government is also truly touched by this optimism, then two macroeconomic decisions need to be taken as of now in anticipation of the "rosy" future that awaits the Kingdom. One of these concerns the fate of Royal Jordanian and the other belongs to the Aqaba Port.

There is no better way to begin translating the government's deep conviction in the viability of the ongoing peace process, and its heavy investment in it, than by propping up the country's national carrier here and now. How else can the country be able to shoulder its responsibilities towards itself and its people, in the not too distant future, if not by having a healthy and robust enough airline to carry on the task of constructing on its edifice and foundation?

Peace in the area would surely spell economic boom and the rebirth of tourism on a scale hitherto unexperienced. Would it not be infinitely wiser and more prudent to face such imminent prospects with Royal Jordanian prepared rather than caught un-

ready as its present state of affairs suggests? Must we wait till the last bitter minute to resurrect our admittedly best "ambassador" from its current dismal abandonment?

There is no way that the restructuring of the country's economy in conditions of peace can be accomplished without a healthy and competitive enough airline to face the flurry of activities that would surely emerge in the not distant future. So why is the government shy about lending real and bold support to Royal Jordanian is something that is indeed puzzling and bewildering to all who have a minimal vision of the future. Are our authorities waiting till the airline is stripped of its remaining fleet before it offers it meaningful and timely financial assistance? It is through sheer miracle that Royal Jordanian has survived, and it has done so in no small measure, due to the strength of conviction of its staff who are doing an admirable job in running the airline against great odds. They must not be let down again.

Thus urgent decisions need to be taken to save the airline from imminent disaster. "Little" people cannot be expected to come to the rescue of the airline as they simply cannot handle the challenge on their own. "Big people" are urged to step in to salvage the situation before the condition of the airline becomes irretrievable. Clearly there is no time for petty recrimination. Now is the time to think boldly and big about it before it is too late. The airline's demise, God forbid, would deal a heavy blow to the entire country and every effort must be exerted to sustain it

and breathe new life into it.

The other important pillar in the Jordanian economy that requires urgent attention is the Port of Aqaba. There is hardly any disagreement that the port stands to generate not only sizeable income to the country but also highly coveted hard currencies when the conditions in the area return to normal. Last we forget, Aqaba harbour once earned the Kingdom hundreds of millions of dollars, especially in the eighties when bold decisions were taken to expand its facilities under the leadership of personnel who knew the business of running it. Of late, Amman has been giving the distinct impression that Aqaba Port Authority was something with which they could experiment with no clear objective in sight. The best evidence of this was the rapid and chronic change in the leadership of that vital authority. What exacerbated the situation was that by and large the directorship of the port was assigned to persons highly qualified in everything except operating a port facility. With peace in the region looming on the horizon, Aqaba Port deserves a visionary leadership, well-versed in the mechanics of administering it as well as in articulating its intermediate and long-range policies on the basis of hard won experiences.

These two areas in the Jordanian economy warrant immediate remedial measures in order to prepare the country for the new era, that is about to dawn on us all. The decisions related to them should not be relegated to bureaucratic minds, but rather to people in the Kingdom who are capable of making big decisions.

Reform — obstacles and goals

A GROUP of Jordanian intellectuals has recently concluded that His Majesty King Hussein's drive to liberalise Jordan's political and social institutions is not being matched by similar enthusiasm at the Lower House tier of our political leadership. The group noticed the King's vision as embodied in his numerous speeches and directives has not been translated into actions at different levels of government. We do share this view. A look at the King's letters of appointment to successive prime ministers compared to government achievements so far indicates beyond doubt a big default in the system and its institutions. Where the problems lie and how the obstacles can be removed is open to study and research. However, a number of defects in our system was identified and established long ago.

Education, the basic building bloc in the formation of any modern nation, is one area where a lot of effort, and especially funds, need to be invested. Our educational system is by all standards outdated and mediocre at best.

Another area of serious shortcoming is the government's right arm, the bureaucracy, which is almost useless. It functions, where it does, on the management skills of the 1940s and 1950s. It has been determined, also a long time ago, that the civil service is bloated to a dangerous level.

The more than 120,000 civil servants have turned over the years into a citadel whose occupants vehemently defend the system against any reform or improvement. Likewise are our laws and legislations; some of which are still rooted in the archaic Ottoman body of law.

Government in Jordan is still highly centralised and craves for more every day. The government has traditionally sought to control, and backwardly at that, every aspect of Jordanian life.

These are only some of the areas that require urgent attention from each and every government. Unless radical reforms are initiated and everyone, deputy or minister, put in their share of effort, we should be prepared to face the worst. We were heartened to hear that His Majesty is working on streamlining the armed and security forces to make them still more efficient. If, as is the hope of most Jordanians, the peace process succeeds, Jordan would certainly welcome a mutual, regional reduction in arms which in turn would free much-needed funds for education, health and social welfare.

It is therefore our hope that the new government, headed by Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, would set its priorities on tackling such fundamental problems as those hindering our development in order to prepare the country for the future and to cater for the aspirations of coming generations.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

IT IS natural after all to see a government resigning under a democracy, particularly if the government is forced to do so in light of confidence accorded to it by the legislative assembly, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily Sunday. The resignation of a government and the formation of a new one does not weaken the democratic process in the country; on the contrary, it helps rejuvenate such a process, the paper continued. The daily said that the resignation of Mr. Taher Masi did not come about as a result of the pressure exercised by Parliament in order to halt Jordan's participation in the peace process, but rather as a conviction on the part of the government, in light of its inability to secure a parliamentary majority supporting its programme. In order that Jordan can pursue its drive to achieve peace, there is need to ensure full backing from Parliament and a sound democratic march on the internal front, added the daily. If the change of government can lead to further strengthening of internal unity, then the resignation of the government should be regarded as a welcome development, the paper said. It said that national unity serves as the strongest foundation for the survival of democracy which Jordanian citizens are very keen on safeguarding.

Al Dastour daily said it was regrettable to see the United States directing threats against Libya, accusing it of being responsible for the crash of one of its planes over Britain. It said that the Arab countries should not keep silent as one of the Arab states is exposed to threats of aggression and should not follow the same behaviour they adopted when Iraq was facing danger. The paper said that the United States, which claims to be spearheading efforts to achieve a lasting peace in the Middle East, is now endangering that prospect by threatening to launch aggression on a country in the region. The Arab countries silence vis-a-vis such threats reconfirms the fact that the Arab Nation is in total disarray and cannot rise up to defend itself in the face of external danger, largely due to lack of will to end differences that have been plaguing inter-Arab relations, the paper said. It said that the current threats and preparations for aggression are reminiscent of the period that preceded Washington's aggression on Iraq with the result that many innocent victims fell and the Arab World was rendered defenceless and as weak and divided as ever. The paper urged Arab leaders to act immediately to avert another tragedy.

By Yossi Beilin

THE international peace conference in Madrid was an event that will go down in history. If it proves sterile, the date will be remembered as the time when all our neighbours recognised our right to exist in this part of the world as a Jewish and sovereign state.

Should it bear fruit, it will symbolise a new page in the history of the Middle East, and the opening of a chapter of peace in our region.

In any event, what has preceded the conference will not recur.

We reached the conference very late, after four years of intifada, after Scud attacks; we could have got there before both, following the London Agreement of April 1987.

Some say those were years in which the Likud fought for its cause and made impressive achievements, and consequently struggled against an international conference. But this was an inter-

national conference by any yardstick, by virtue of the superpower leadership, U.N. and European participation and high-handed American management.

Only Mr. Shamir still terms it a "regional conference."

The agreement that "the international conference will not impose any solution or veto any agreement arrived at between the parties" appears in the London Agreement. The words: "The Palestinian issue will be dealt with in the committee of the Jordanian-Palestinian and the Israeli delegations" are taken from the London Agreement, and so is the agreement that all negotiations will take place in bilateral committees, in direct talks.

Claims to the effect that all this was achieved as a result of the Likud's hardline policy are untrue.

Even on procedural matters over which Mr. Shamir has long fought, achievements were doubtful. The joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation functioned as two delegations, with two

separate chairmen. In place of the Palestinians, Mr. Shamir refused to speak to, Faisal Hussein and Hanan Ashrawi became heads of the delegation and its spokesmen.

The attempt to deny the Palestinians the 45-minute quota to address the conference failed right after it was broached; this will probably be the fate of the current attempt to alternate the talks in Israel and the Arab states.

Some say that without the intifada and the Scuds, there wouldn't have been a conference. This is like the familiar claim that peace with Egypt would have been impossible without the Arab-Israeli war.

Well, it would have been possible to conclude the Camp David Accords in February 1971, in conformity with the proposal of U.N. mediator Gunnar Jarling, and with Sadat's agreement, saving Israel more than 3,000 lives and tens of thousands of wounded.

The Madrid conference could

have been held in April 1987, immediately after the London Agreement, reached between governmental elements in Jordan and Israel through the agency of the U.S.

It is deplorable that after these historic events, we went to Madrid with sour faces, like someone led there handcuffed, against a raucous background at home, one which aroused echoes everywhere and controversy with — and within — the Foreign Ministry.

It is most regrettable that the prime minister's speech was so dry and bereft of inspiration; apart from a historical survey which had a certain importance, it contained nothing of note.

It is a pity that the speech did not admit the mistakes of the past and call for a new chapter of peace. The best thing that can be said of Mr. Shamir's speech is that it was less extreme than the man himself.

It is regrettable that only in Israel did our information campaign defeat the Arab one; that our communicators' approach

was one of going to war, of the "front line," of "a public relations attack."

The Palestinians, for their part, convinced the world that they had come for peace. It was ridiculous to revert to waving the Palestinian Charter and, at the same time, sit across from a delegation chairman who had been among the founders of the PLO.

Henceforth, tactics like these will only work in the Likud Party Central Committee.

Israel must now march toward peace. If anyone in the government thinks it is worth dragging out the negotiations as long as possible, he is taking too serious a risk. Past experience proves it is not worth delaying.

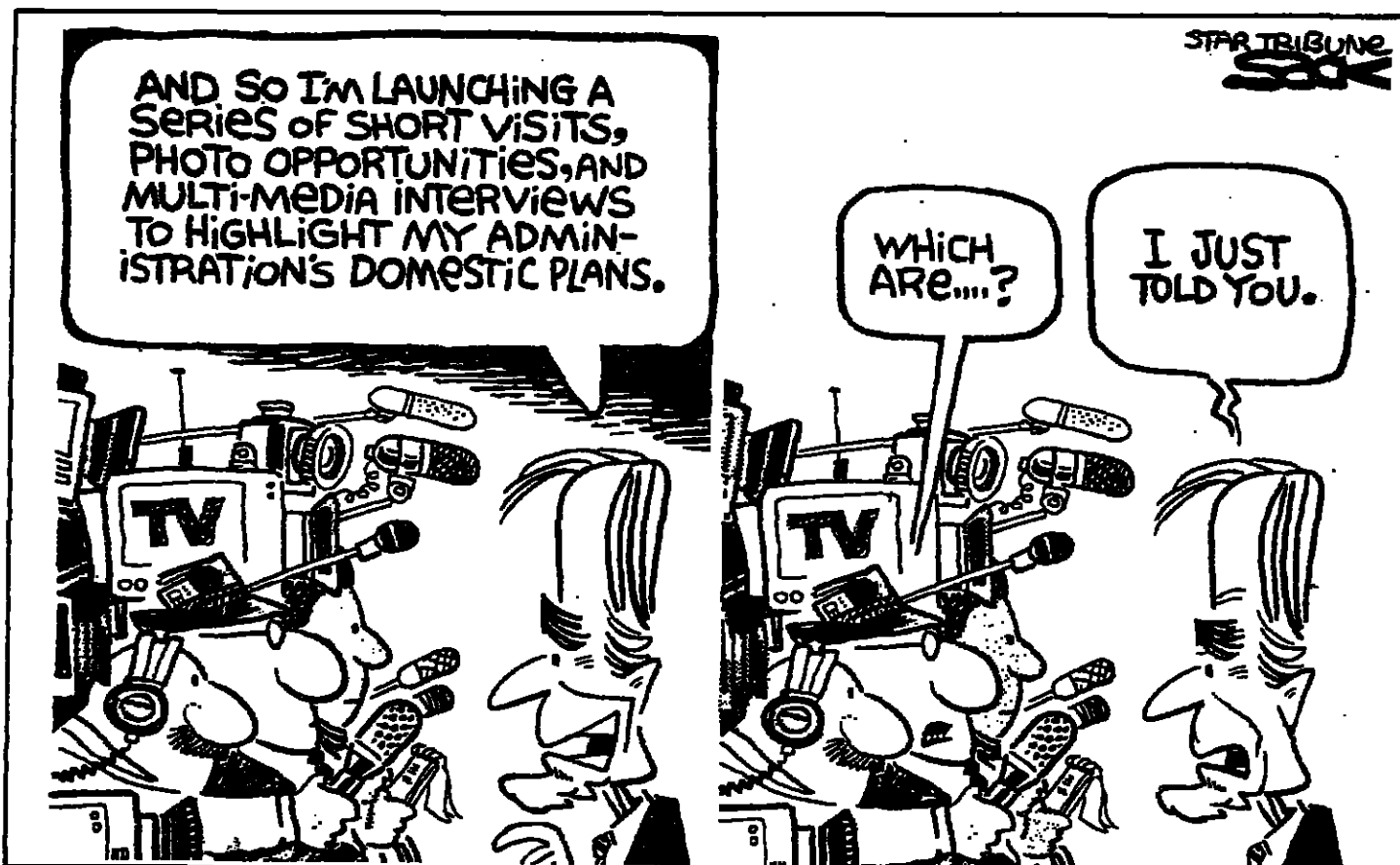
Let us not fix the next round of talks for one month hence, and the one after it in another two months. At last there is someone to talk to. Let's talk every day, without stopping. Let us not leave the discussion until white smoke emerges from the chimney...

Let us not make a stand on petty matters. It isn't important where the negotiations are held. What is important is that they be held. For dozens of years called on our foes to speak with us — anywhere, any time. Let us not retreat from that call.

And most important: let us concentrate on the main issue. Israel's security will not derive from annexing Gaza, the Golan Heights will not prevent Syrian Scuds from reaching us. We must insist on meticulous security arrangements, on the unity of Jerusalem under our sovereignty as the capital of Israel and on demilitarising the territories we evacuate in the administered areas and the Golan Heights.

If we stand firm on these issues, there will be a broad national consensus.

We shall, on the other hand, get no consensus if we insist on settlements in the heart of a dense Arab population and on annexing two million Palestinians. — The Jerusalem Post.



Bush keeps eye on the polls as he prepares for 1992 campaign

By Irwin Arief
Reuter

WASHINGTON — President George Bush likes to say he doesn't pay attention to public opinion polls but the themes he seized upon in last week's unofficial launch of his re-election campaign would indicate otherwise. Technically, Mr. Bush is not even a candidate for re-election. The Republican is not expected to formally declare his intention to seek a second term until early next year, although six Democrats are already seeking their party's nomination to run against him.

But in his first two fund-raising speeches last week for the benefit of the "Bush-Chase 1992" committee, set up last month to begin raising money for the campaign, he was sounding like a man attuned to the latest public opinion polls.

In recent public remarks and speeches, he has referred to themes touched on by surveys,

including rising unemployment and a view that Mr. Bush is spending too much time on foreign affairs.

Polls have revealed a sharp rise in public fears about joblessness, and Mr. Bush, in an abrupt turnabout, embraced an effort to compromise with Congress on new jobless benefits, exclaiming last week that "families are hurting out there."

Polls showed voters think Mr. Bush is spending too much time on foreign affairs and neglecting domestic woes, and Mr. Bush proclaimed: "We live in an integrated world (where) you can't neatly divide foreign policy from domestic policy."

"The pride that we felt in our fighting men and women — and in ourselves — shouldn't be trivialised as something foreign," Mr. Bush said, seizing on the still-popular U.S.-led defeat of Iraq in the Gulf war.

Neil Newhouse of Public Opinion Strategies, a suburban Washington Republican polling

firm, said that while a solid majority of voters still approved of Mr. Bush overall, "in the past two to three weeks, things have started catching up to him."

Mr. Newhouse's firm had briefed White House political aides just last week on a new poll showing that voters' growing fears of losing their jobs could topple Mr. Bush in November 1992.

They said their most significant findings were that 13 per cent of those surveyed rated jobs "the most important issue facing the nation in October, up from eight per cent in July."

Sixty-five per cent reported hearing friends or neighbours talking within the past month about the chance they could lose their jobs in the next year. Mr. Bush had twice blocked Democratic moves to extend jobless benefits for those long out of work, saying in August that an extension was unnecessary and in October that such a move would bust the budget agreement.

But early last week Mr. Bush disclosed a new willingness to compromise with Congress. And in his fund-raising speeches, he sounded like a changed man, pleading with Congress for the new benefits and loudly blaming the Democrats for inaction. "I think it's a crying shame to play politics when people are hurting in this country," he said. "Families are hurting, and I've said for months that I want to help them."

Public opinion polls have also picked up a tidal wave of support for term limits on elected officials, and Mr. Bush has blamed the slow progress of his domestic agenda on congressional leaders who could not be ousted even as they flouted the voters.

"Every time you turn around, you've got some subcommittee chairman that's been there 30 years trying to mandate new benefits and tell some guy in Midland or Odessa (Texas) how to run his life, and we're sick and tired of it," Mr. Bush said.

Bush plagued by economic hangover from 1980's boom

By Rich Miller
Reuter

WASHINGTON — President George Bush rode into power in the debt-financed boom of the Reagan era but now the bills are coming due as the countdown to next year's presidential election begins.

"The great wave of the '80's has crashed on the shore," said Robert Deberick, chief economist of the Northern Trust Co. "We're caught in the rip tide and it's hard to struggle against that."

Mr. Bush felt the force of that rip tide last week, when one of his top aides was dealt a stunning defeat in an election for a U.S. Senate seat from Pennsylvania by a little-known Democrat whose campaign theme attacked the president's economic policies.

Analysts said voters are fed up with hearing about a recovery that had done little to alleviate their concerns about job security or put more money in their pockets.

But many economists and even some of Mr. Bush's own advisers believe there is not much the president or Congress can do to get the economy moving again until the heavy debt load of the 1980's has been worked down.

The huge deficits built up in the 1980's by a tax-cutting president and a free-spending Congress fuelled America's longest peacetime economic upswing but left Mr. Bush with little room to expand the budget now to pump up the sluggish economy.

White House Chief Economist Michael Boskin said the normal prescription for a weak economy — tax cuts and stepped-up government spending — would not work as well now because of the big budget deficit.

"They'd be far less stimulative," he said. Any increase in the budget deficit — it is already projected to be a record \$350 billion in the 1991/92 fiscal year — would push up long-term interest rates and discourage consumers from borrowing to buy homes and companies from borrowing to expand output.

But the federal government isn't the only one guilty of going

on a borrowing binge in the 1980's. Household debt soared by nearly 12 per cent per year from 1983 to 1990, while personal income only rose about 7 1/4 per cent annually.

Now those bills are coming due and consumers are paying them off. And that's acting as a drag on the economy.

"We're in a phase now where attitudes are changing," Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady told Reuters in a recent interview. "Fifty per cent of baby boomers are now home on Saturday whereas before they were probably on their way to Bermuda for the weekend."

Consumer wariness about taking on any more debt means that the steep drop in short-term interest rates engineered by the U.S. Federal Reserve over the last year has had limited impact on the economy, economists said.

Banks and commercial property developers are also suffering a hangover from the 1980's debt binge.

Saddled with many bad loans from the last decade, banks have become increasingly stingy about lending money to even the most creditworthy of borrowers. Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan has described this "credit crunch" as a 80-kilometres-per-hour headwind blowing against the economy.

The commercial property boom of the 1980's has resulted in a glut of everything from shopping centres to office buildings. About 18 per cent of office building space is currently vacant.

David Wynn, chief financial economist at DRI/McGraw Hill economic consultants, said that glut means developers are unlikely to borrow money no matter how low interest rates go.

In the end analysis, perhaps what the economy most needs is time to work off the debt load of the last decade.

"While we're in that debt liquidation phase, things are going to be slower," Mr. Brady said. "When we get out of that phase, we will have the economy in a position where it can really resume growth on a very sound basis. Everybody wants that to happen in an election," he added. "I think it will."

Sharif Zeid continues efforts

(Continued from page 1)

ment, especially in public freedoms, which greatly relapsed under the previous government," Mr. Azadeh said.

The sources said that Sharif Zeid held a number of meetings with the movement's representatives and that it was "not impossible" to win their support for his government.

"The support could happen by their abstention in a confidence vote session," one of the sources said. He cited an example of former Prime Minister Mudar Badran's government when the movement stayed out during the first round but did give him its support in parliament. "Later they joined the government. Things could happen that way this time around too," the source said.

The 16-member National Bloc, of which Mr. Masri is a member, and the six-member independent Islamist bloc also discussed their position towards a government headed by Sharif Zeid and "agreed to support it," according to an informed source.

The 18-member Constitution Bloc was expected to hold its regular meeting today and one of its members expected that there would be a discussion of the change in government then.

The Democratic Bloc, which joined hands with the Muslim Brotherhood bloc in calling for more public freedoms under Mr.

Masri's government, kept mum over its talks with Sharif Zeid but one of its members had said Saturday that his bloc's position would be determined "according to the new government's policy statement and its makeup."

Mr. Masri's government, aware of an across-the-board parliamentary dissatisfaction with its public freedoms record, has scheduled a cabinet meeting Tuesday during which the cabinet will reinstate all civil servants dismissed for political reasons.

Sources within Mr. Masri's government said Sunday that the last meeting of the cabinet will be "to put final touches on the fiscal budget and reinstate the civil servants fired from the jobs on political grounds."

The Masri government will continue its mandate until Sharif Zeid and his government are officially appointed and sources said that Mr. Masri and Sharif Zeid "have been working closely together during this transitional stage."

"This is one of the new positive elements that has come about in this change," said a source close to the consultations. "It will be a smooth transition."

It was not clear last night who would replace Sharif Zeid as chief of the royal court. Several names were mentioned to fill the post, but none of them could be confirmed by any of the sources contacted by the Jordan Times.

Palestinians 'seeking to ensure their rights'

(Continued from page 1)

constituency in the West Bank and Gaza ... 30 different occasions last week in order to inform and win approval from the Palestinians in the occupied territories.

Opposition in particular from hardline Islamists was evident in questions raised by the partly hostile audience during the Amman meeting.

The main bone of contention between Palestinians who are for and against negotiations with Israel at this stage revolves over the fate of the 2.5 million Palestinian refugees who originate from the Arab territories occupied by Israel in the 1948 war and those who fled the parts of Palestine that became Israel in 1947 and were denied the right to return by the Jewish state.

The right of return, the Palestinian delegates said, will not be a subject for negotiations. "It is a right which we have no intention and no right to forfeit," Mr. Hussein said.

"We are going to the 'peace negotiations' because we have suffered beyond our means," Mr. Erakat said.

Mr. Erakat, one of the more outspoken Palestinian delegates, said the Arabs have only the Arab governments to blame for the "weak" position of the Arab delegations in talks with Israel.

As a result of the many political splits in the Arab World the Palestinians and some other Arabs had been left to fend for themselves and have thus been forced to attend the peace negotiations with nothing but "international law" on their side," he said.

The lack of Arab unity will have long-reaching effects, the delegates said.

"What kind of Arab World stays silent while 18 million Israelis live with the threat of starvation and Jordan and Palestine live under an on-going economic blockade?" Mr. Erakat asked. "There should have been Arab-Arab negotiations before there were Arab-Israeli negotiations, but unfortunately that has not yet happened."

"The Palestinians living under occupation are receiving more medical, educational and economic help from European countries than they are getting from their Arab brothers," Mr. Erakat told the crowd.

The theme that the Palestinians would have secured a better position if there was Arab coordination was underlined by delegate Abdullah.

"We are not very satisfied with the level of Arab coordination," Mr. Abdullah said.

Lack of Arab cooperation "did not permit us to begin the negotiating process in a better way," he said. "We could have entered the peace talks with better conditions."

Mr. Hussein added: "We are in dire need of comprehensive Arab cooperation."

The PLO has asked for the convening of an Arab summit on the peace process, and "until now we see no signs of such a meeting taking place," Mr. Erakat said.

U.S. wants 'world response'

(Continued from page 1)

The statement noted the Libyan government's denial of involvement and said its offer to hold a "neutral" investigation was a sign of its innocence.

"The Arab League general secretary appeals to all the parties to control themselves and not to hasten in taking any actions which might increase tension in the Middle East at a time when international and Arab efforts are coordinating to establish peace."

At the same time, Mahfouz Al Ansary, editor of the government-controlled Al Gomhuria newspaper, made a similar appeal to President Bush.

"President Bush, you have created for yourself and your country a good picture in our region and the world. Protect this," Mr. Ansary wrote. "Do not embroil yourself today in an operation of

revenge for a crime similar to ones you and others have carried out. No one has the right to punish (Libya)."

"Do not strike against Libya. Because striking against Arab Libya, is not a punishment for (Libyan leader Muammar) Qadhafi, but a punishment for your friends, your Arab friends."

In his editorial, Mr. Ansary said he was not addressing whether or not Libya was involved in the Pan Am bombing. But he stressed that U.S. policy was guilty of much worse crimes.

The Egyptian government has made no official comment on the airline-bombing charges.

Diplomats in Tripoli were summoned to the Libyan foreign ministry over the U.S. and British accusations, according to a dispatch Sunday by Libya's official news agency (JANA).

Palestinians form political panels

(Continued from page 1)

council a step towards autonomy and added that the list of council nominees would be submitted to Israel for approval.

In another move, reflecting a change of atmosphere, Israel's postal authority said it would renovate the 14 Gaza Strip post offices which it said were technologically 20 years behind.

Sigal Galil, postal authority spokeswoman, said 50 Gaza postal workers have been invited to the opening of a newly renovated post office in an Israeli Arab town.

"We think that post brings people together," Ms. Galil said. Also Sunday, Police Minister Roni Milo denied Israeli Radio reports that police recommended prosecuting Palestinian nego-

tiator Hanan Ashrawi for alleged meeting with PLO officials.

"The police did not give recommendations, only findings," said spokeswoman Tami Paul-Cohen. "Police Minister Milo said the decision to stand Ashrawi on trial was up to the state prosecution and the attorney general."

A 1986 law forbids Israelis to meet PLO officials. But Health Minister Ehud Olmert has pointed out that Dr. Ashrawi is not an Israeli citizen.

In another development, police are investigating the case of an Israeli army officer who was found shot dead in his car near the West Bank city of Tulkarm, military sources said.

The officer had been shot in the head and his gun was found at his side. The sources said the army was investigating.

Iraq denies siege of north

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Barzani said in a statement from his headquarters in Iraqi Kurdistan.

"We have demonstrated our resolve for a peaceful settlement, but if the latest Iraqi troop movements mean a repeat of the tragedies of our people and mass deportations, then we are ready to defend ourselves against new aggression," Mr. Barzani said in

his statement. "Iraq is massing troops all the way from Zakho to Khanaqin," said Dr. Kamal Khoshnabi, a Damascus-based spokesman for the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, the second main rebel group.

Thousands of Kurds have fled Erbil for fear that orders to evacuate villages to the southwest are the prelude to an imminent attack by Iraqi troops.

The JANA dispatch said the diplomats were assembled Saturday and given a copy of the foreign ministry statement Friday which denied the allegations and called for a "neutral" investigating body.

JANA said diplomats from Europe, Latin America, Asia and Africa, including the Middle East, were summoned. Belgium represents U.S. interests and Italy does the same for Britain in Tripoli.

Libya also said Sunday the U.S. and British charges were aimed at terrorizing its people and diverting attention from U.S. economic problems.

"The accusations ... coincide with the American people's increased economic problems and are aimed at diverting its attention from these problems," a commentary carried by JANA said.

"The U.S. and British threats are aimed at keeping the Libyan people busy with things other than their vanguard role in realizing their national, Islamic and international goals."

A London-based Arabic newspaper reported Sunday that Colonel Qadhafi would visit Cairo shortly to discuss Egyptian mediation "to contain the explosive situation between Tripoli and Washington."

Sharq Al Awsat also quoted informed sources as saying an Egyptian envoy would soon travel to Washington "to find a solution that dispels the spectre of confrontation."

Western diplomats said they would not be surprised if Egypt was mediating. Cairo has an economic interest in Libya because up to 1.5 million Egyptians work there, and a political interest in avoiding any crisis which could derail Middle East peace efforts.

In the Sudanese capital Khartoum, a statement by the Foreign Ministry expressed concern over the Western attack on Libya as well as solidarity.

"Sudan, while voicing solidarity with the Libyan people, calls for exercising a policy of self-restraint, resorting to international law and conventions and refraining from an unilateral measures that might jeopardise the Libyan people's safety and security of the region," the statement said.

It said Sudan was firmly opposed to use of military force against Libya which "endangers not only the Libyan people but also the security and stability in the entire region and even the

world peace and security."

Iraq accused the United States of "crying" over the victims of the Lockerbie disaster while its own "aggressive policy based on terrorism" caused the death of thousands of people each day.

The newspaper Al Qadisiyah said U.S. threats against Libya were part of a plot to "submit the Arab Nation to foreign domination under the cover of a new international order."

"The daily said in an editorial that there was something 'suspicious about American criminal intentions towards Libya.'

Al Qadisiyah said Washington was "crying over the passengers of this plane while at the same time causing the death of thousands of people in the world daily because of its aggressive policy based on terrorism."

"The aggression on Iraq and the imposition of unjust economic sanctions on its people are evidence of American terrorism and crimes. It cries over those victims and ignores the death of thousands of children and women and elderly because of the dangerous shortage of food and basic items in Iraq."

"It is false humanity does not extend to the deliberate extermination of Iraqi people," the newspaper said.

Shamir: Peace hopes hinge on U.S. talks

(Continued from page 1)

A formal decision on resuming Arab-Israeli talks could come when Mr. Shamir meets Mr. Bush Friday, Yossi Ahimeir, an aide to Mr. Shamir, said Sunday.

Israel favours a Middle East venue, the Arabs a more neutral location.

Mr. Shamir is due to speak to Jewish groups in Los Angeles, Boston, New York and Baltimore during his 10-day U.S. trip. He is due in Washington only Friday.

"We all know there are differences. They have existed for years," Mr. Shamir said.

"But now of all times ... it is most important that there be no contradictions too outstanding between the positions of Israel and the United States."

"Should there be contradictions, the aims will not be achieved," he added.

Mr. Shamir, leader of Israel's rightist Likud Party, has also sparred with Mr. Bush over a \$10-billion loan guarantee Israel needs to help integrate Soviet immigrants.

Mr. Bush infuriated the Jewish state in September by postponing

consideration of the guarantee for four months. Israelis saw his move as crude pressure to coax them to the peace table.

Moscow offers itself

The Soviet Union is likely to propose Moscow as the venue for the next stage of the Middle East peace conference, Foreign Minister Boris Pankin was quoted as saying Saturday.

Moscow Radio said Mr. Pankin told his Egyptian counterpart Amr Musa in a letter that the Soviet Union "will probably suggest" that the conference which opened last month in Madrid resume in Moscow.

Soviet officials were not immediately available for further comment on the letter, which was passed to Mr. Musa by the Soviet ambassador in Cairo.

No venue has yet been agreed for Israel to resume three sets of bilateral talks with Syria, Lebanon and a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

The Soviet Union and the United States are co-sponsoring the historic conference.

JORDAN WELFARE LOTTERY

Ordinary issue No. 21

Drawing of: Nov. 17, 1991

Winning Tickets

Holder of ticket No. 34943 Wins JD 25,000	Ten consolation prizes totaling JD 1,000 each wins JD 100 34944 34953 34043 35943 44943 34942 34933 34843 33943 24943
Holder of ticket No. 14097 Wins JD 6,000	Ten consolation prizes totaling JD 600 each wins JD 60 14098 14007 14197 15097 24097 14096 14087 14997 13097 04097
Holder of ticket No. 00785 Wins JD 3,000	Ten consolation prizes totaling JD 300 each wins JD 30 00786 00795 00885 01785 10785 00784 00775 00685 09785 70785
Holder of ticket No. 79791 Wins JD 2,500	Ten consolation prizes totaling JD 200 each wins JD 20 79792 79701 79891 70791 09791 79790 79781 79691 78791 69791
Holder of ticket No. 46857 Wins JD 1,500	Ten consolation prizes totaling JD 150 each wins JD 15 46858 46867 46957 47857 56857 46856 46847 46757 45857 36857
Holder of ticket No. 30832 Wins JD 1,200	Ten consolation prizes totaling JD 100 each wins JD 10 30833 30842 30932 31832 40832 30831 30822 30732 39832 20832
Holder of ticket No. 74403 Wins JD 1,000	Ten consolation prizes totaling JD 80 each wins JD 8 74404 74413 74503 75403 04403 74402 74493 74303 73403 64403
Holder of ticket No. 64484 Wins JD 600	Ten consolation prizes totaling JD 70 each wins JD 7 64485 64494 64584 65484 74484 64483 64474 64384 63484 54484

Ticket numbers	77737 23667 26355 78482	win JD 200 each
Ticket numbers	71715 07957 48499	win JD 100 each

TICKETS ENDING WITH

2098 8344 5739 5710 4480	Win JD 20 each	9366 7324 9998 8653 4887	Win JD 10 each
239 755 333 173 624	Win JD 5 each		
8000 tickets ending with 9	Win JD 2 each		

COVER PRIZES FOR THE LOTTERY SELLERS

40 covers, attached to the stub of 10 ending in	317 087 131 193 398	Win JD 10
--	----------------------------	-----------

Winners of the grand prizes in the ordinary issue number 20 of Nov. 2, 1991

 Sabah Al-Tajer Half first JD 12,500	 Fares Fakhri Half first JD 12,500	 Rami Hattab Half second JD 6,250	 Laila Al-Salam Half second JD 6,250	 Mohamed Salem Half third JD 1,250	 Firas Al-Jall Half fourth JD 1,250	 Hameed Al-Qasbi Half fifth JD 750
---	---	--	---	---	--	---

Next Drawing takes place on Dec. 2, 1991

First eight biggest prizes are issued from GUVS headquarters

THE PROFESSIONALS ALWAYS CHOOSE THE RELIABLE

PACKING, AIR FREIGHT FORWARDING, DOOR-TO-DOOR SERVICES AND DELIVERIES, CUSTOMS CLEARANCE, TICKETS AND RESERVATIONS.

AMIN KAWAR & SONS
TEL. 604676 604696
P.O. BOX 7808 AMMAN

4 Rent & Sale

Many villas and apartments are available for rent and sale - furnished or unfurnished.

Also many lots of land are available for sale.

For further details, please call

Abdoun Real Estate
Tel. 810805, 810803
Fax: 810520

RENT Distinctive

Villas Apartments Flats IN ROYAL WEST AMMAN

real estate "R" US

Just call NIDAL **693037**

STUDIO HAIG

Professional Quality in 1 Hour Service

Develop your colour film at our shop and get:

- JUMBO photo size 30% larger
- Free Metal Frame 13 x 18 cm

Shmeisani - Opp. Grindlays Bank. Phone: 604042
Swefieh tel: 823891

LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO RENT IN WEST AMMAN

CALL SOHA AT



Saudi Real Estate 687821/22

CROWN

INT'L EST. Packing, shipping, forwarding, storage, clearing, door-to-door service

Air, Sea and Land

Agents all over the world
Tel: 664090
Fax: 690852
P.O. Box 82847 Amman

فندق ريجنسي بالاس
The Regency Palace Hotel

LOBBY LOUNGE

SABIL

DAILY PIANO ENTERTAINMENT

The Rozana Restaurant

The Best of East & West

East & West every evening 6:00-10:00

RESTAURANT CHINA

The first & best Chinese Restaurant in Jordan

1st Circle, Jabal Amman, near Ahliyyah Girls School

Takes away is available

Open daily 12:00-3:30 p.m.
6:30-Midnight
Tel. 639968

Peking Restaurant

AUTHENTIC CHINESE CUISINE

colorful atmosphere moderate prices

shmeisani.tel:06050
now open daily 1

CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT

Mecca Street, Yarmouk Engineers' Housing Estate, near Kilo Supermarket

Mongolian Barbeque for Lunch Friday only

Tel: 818214

Come and taste our specialties

Open daily 12:00 - 3:30 p.m.
6:30 - Midnight

MANDARIN RESTAURANT

Special Chinese Foods Skilled Chinese Chefs

Open 11:30-3:30 & 6:00-11:30 daily

Takes away is available

Wadi Saqra Road near Philadelphia Hotel
(Tel. 681822, Amman)

Once Tasted Always Loved

The First Class Hotel in Amman that has a Kitchenette in every room...

DAROTEL

Amman - Tel. 668193
P.O. Box 9403 - Fax 602434
Telex 23886 DAROT, JO

Ideal Residence For Expatriates and Businessmen

THE RANCH STEAK HOUSE

DAILY BUSINESSMAN'S LUNCH

لانش بلاكذلفيا
The Philadelpha

Soup of the Day
Salad Bar
Grilled Filet Mignon with potatoes and vegetables
Dessert - Coffee Or Tea
Price: JD 3.00

For Res. Call 683100 Ext. 113.

For the Best for your MONEY

ADVERTISE HERE

Jordan Times

Japanese set sights on Lineker

LONDON (R) — Gary Lineker, England captain and model professional, has ended a week of high drama as the player ambitions Japan are seeking to help their soccer dreams come true.

Lineker followed his crucial goal for his country in Poland Wednesday with a double strike for his first division club Tottenham Saturday, showing just the qualities that make him a prime target for the Japanese.

Japan, who want to stage the 2002 World Cup, are keen to start off their professional Super League in 1993 with major international signings.

Brazilian former and present stars Zico and Careca, among others, have been tempted to take part. Now Lineker is the subject of a big money offer.

Tottenham have not denied reports in the British press at the weekend that talks are under way for Lineker, 31 later this month, to move to Japanese Toyota-backed club Grampus Eight.

After Tottenham's 4-1 home trouncing of Luton, manager Peter Shreeves sought to ease fans' concern by saying Lineker, whose contract runs until 1993, would stay at White Hart Lane for the rest of this season at least.

"My responsibility here at Tottenham is for training and the team. Gary Lineker is currently involved in that and will be until the end of the season, without any shadow of doubt."

"I want to make that quite clear to the fans. Whatever goes on after that is a point for discussion," Shreeves said.

Lineker's equaliser in the 1-1 draw in Poland gave his country a place in the European Championship finals. It took his international tally to 46, just three short of Bobby Charlton's record.

Tottenham can thank him for 19 goals this season.

The London side's sixth victory of the season, only their second at home, lifted them from 16th to 11th in the first division.

Leeds regained top spot from Manchester United with a 2-0 win at home to Queen's Park Rangers. Mel Sterland and Rod Wallace were their marksmen.

Manager Howard Wilkinson praised his team for their perseverance in breaking down a side that had not lost in their previous six away matches.

"Both our goals came from set pieces. But if you work on these things you get some reward," he said.

United Manager Alex Ferguson said there was too much tension for good football at Maine Road where his side were held 0-0 by tough-tackling neighbours Manchester City.

Former England striker Mark Hateley scored twice as Glasgow Rangers crushed Airdrie 4-0 to stay within a point of Scottish premier league leaders Hearts.

Hearts beat Celtic 3-1.

Capriati overwhelms Sabatini to move into Philadelphia final

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Jennifer Capriati overpowered Gabriela Sabatini with her backhand passing shots to move into the final against top-seeded Monica Seles in the Virginia Slims of Philadelphia.

Capriati was a 6-3, 6-4 winner of her Saturday semifinal in the \$350,000 event. Seles reached her 16th straight final this year with a 6-1, 6-2 victory over Arantxa Sanchez Vicario.

Seles, who needed only 65 minutes to beat No. 3 Sanchez Vicario, has won eight tournaments in 1991 en route to the world's No. 1 ranking.

"It's amazing," Seles said. "Last year, my goal was to get to the semifinals or final of every tournament and I've kept that with me this year. I've been a little lucky."

Capriati and Seles last met in the semifinals at the U.S. Open, which Seles won 6-3, 3-6, 7-6. "I'm looking forward to playing Monica," Capriati said.

Capriati won the final game of the 1 hour, 14-minute match serv-

ing at love.

Capriati hit two cross-court passing shots, a lob that Sabatini tried to stab with the top of her racket, and a return down the right sideline on match point to win.

Sabatini, 21, the second seed, attacked the net to break Capriati twice in the first set. But after that, her volleying attack vanished as she sought to outduel Capriati on the baseline.

After losing her first game, Capriati won three straight, breaking Sabatini twice as the latter double-faulted and Capriati hit blistering backhand shots.

Sabatini rallied to tie the set at 3-3, but Capriati attacked from the baseline and ran off the last three games to take the set in 39 minutes.

Capriati broke Sabatini's serve at 2-2 in the second set with a deuce game that ended with another backhand passing shot on the line.

Capriati then went up 5-3 as Sabatini twice hit backhands into the net and committed unforced

errors.

"I didn't come to the net too much because of the strength of her hitting," Sabatini said. "I played too much on the defense."

Capriati said she has learned how to play Sabatini. "I played her before and lost to her a few times, but now I'm beginning to beat her because I think I know how to play her and I'm getting used to her game."

Sanchez Vicario, No. 5 in the world but 0-7 in her career against Seles, had lost her serve five times in 27 games in the tournament before facing Seles, who needed only seven games to equal that number.

Seles, who triumphed at the U.S., French and Australian Opens but missed Wimbledon because of injury to cost her a chance at the Grand Slam, won the first nine points of the match, breaking Sanchez Vicario at love in the second game, on her way to a 3-0 lead.

Sanchez Vicario earned four break points in the fifth game,

and had a chance to get back into the match, but she could not take advantage of them and Seles held her serve when the 19-year-old Spaniard hit a forehand shot long.

Seles needed only one break point to take a 5-1 lead in the next game on a service return winner and fought off two break points to win the set when Sanchez Vicario's shot hit the let cord and bounced onto her side of the court.

In the second set, Sanchez Vicario lost her serve to fall behind 2-1 but used a backhand passing shot to break right back.

She could not maintain the momentum, however, hitting a forehand shot long to lose her service in the next game and blowing two break points as Seles held for a 4-2 lead.

Seles recorded her final service break on another forehand shot that went long, one of Sanchez Vicario's 31 unforced errors, and won the match in the next game in the same way.

Maleeva wins her 3rd Indy title

INDIANAPOLIS (R) — Katerina Maleeva of Bulgaria defeated unseeded American Andrea Keller 7-6 6-2 to win the \$150,000 Jell-O Tennis Classic for the third time.

The top-seeded Maleeva, the 1988 and 1989 singles champion here, went through the 32-player indoor tournament without losing a set to lift her confidence ahead of next week's \$3 million Virginia Slims Championships in New York.

Keller, who began her year on the secondary satellite circuit, knocked off fourth-seeded Radka Zrubakova of Czechoslovakia and seventh-seeded Patty Fendick this week to reach her first professional final.

Despite the 127 world ranking places separating the two finalists, the 138-ranked Keller kept pace with Maleeva in the hard-hitting groundstroke rallies of the first set, which had no service breaks.

Keller used her strong first serve to turn back three break points in the dramatic seventh game of the first set, which had six deuces.

In the pivotal first-set tiebreak,

Maleeva's patience forced Keller into three uncharacteristic groundstroke errors as the top seed took the last six points to win it 7-1. The Bulgarian had the only service breaks of the second set.

"I think the first set tiebreak decided the match," said Maleeva, who earned \$27,000. "There are so many good players ranked from 100 to 200, so I am not surprised this match was close. Women's tennis has many players who can reach finals of tournaments like this."

3 more Americans knocked out of World Boxing Championships

SYDNEY (R) — American hopes of challenging boxing rivals Cuba and the Soviet Union were dealt another blow Sunday when three of their 12-man squad suffered surprise losses at the World Amateur Championships.

Five of the team have now been eliminated in the preliminary bouts while the Cubans have won all 10 of their fights and remain on course to claim more than half the medals on offer.

The first American casualty on the championships' third day was Oscar De La Hoya, a strong prospect for a medal in the lightweight (60 kg) division.

De La Hoya, United States featherweight (50 kg) champion in 1990 and 1991, went down by 17 points to 13 to German Marko Rudolph and blamed poor timing for his loss.

"My conditioning was good... but my timing was off," De La Hoya said. "But I thought I scored more jabs than the judges gave me credit for."

It was De La Hoya's first defeat in international competition since 1987 and was followed by compatriot Sean Fletcher's heavy defeat on points by Thailand's

Paulanc Poontharat in the bantamweight division.

De La Hoya, 18 from Los Angeles, said defeat had not hurt his ambition of winning gold at next year's Olympics.

"My dream is the Olympic gold and that's still alive, this loss has taken a lot of pressure off me," he said.

Light-middleweight (71 kg) Raul Marquez, a bronze medalist in the welterweight division at the last championships in 1989, made it a trio of American losses when he was outpointed 27 to 17 by Norwegian Ole Klemetsen.

The only bright spot for the Americans was the form of current world amateur champion light-flyweight (48 kg) Eric Griffen who easily outpointed his

South Korean opponent Cho Dong-Bum by 48 to 18.

Griffen, who missed out on an Olympic medal in Seoul when he was sent home after testing positive for marijuana, remains America's best hope of gold in these championships.

The formidable Cubans marched on undefeated, their latest victory coming in the light-flyweight division when Rogelio Marcelo beat Domenico Filane of Canada who was disqualified in the second round.

The Soviet team also added to Saturday's successes with three wins. Eugeny Zykov looking the most impressive in the welterweight (67 kg) division when he stopped South Korean Chun Jin-Chul in the third round.

Kaiserslautern fails to go top

BONN (R) — German champions Kaiserslautern blew a chance to go top of the Bundesliga Saturday with a surprise 1-0 defeat at bottom-placed Fortuna Dusseldorf.

Sven Demant struck the only goal four minutes into the second half.

Guido Hoffmann went closest to an equaliser after 58 minutes but hit a post.

Eintracht Frankfurt remained top, one point ahead of VfB Stuttgart, Kaiserslautern and Borussia Dortmund respectively, despite a 1-0 defeat at Werder Bremen Friday.

Sampras, Courier reach ATP final

FRANKFURT (AP) — Pete Sampras, playing what he said were the two best sets of his career, beat Ivan Lendl, and Jim Courier ousted defending champion Andre Agassi Saturday to reach the finals of the ATP Tour World Championships.

It will be the first all-American final since 1979, when John McEnroe beat Arthur Ashe.

Sampras used a powerful serve and volley game to beat Lendl 6-2, 6-3.

Courier, coming off a big season that has seen him jump to No. 2 in world rankings, beat Agassi 6-3, 7-5.

After a season in which he won only two titles, Agassi will drop to 10th in world rankings, his lowest since 1988.

ATP officials first said Agassi would fall below 10th, but later corrected the statistics.

Courier, the top seed, broke Agassi for a 4-2 lead and went on to serve out the first set.

Agassi broke Courier for a 4-2 lead in the second, but Courier broke back in the next game and gained the decisive break in the 11th game. Agassi hit a smash deep into the corner, but Courier reached it and returned it to the opposite side. Agassi hit the ball wide.

Courier is now 4-4 against Agassi, but has won the last three encounters, including the final of the French Open this year.

He reached the final in his first appearance in the event.

"I went in for the big shots at the right moment and they went in for me," Courier said. "Everything kind of clicked at the right time."

Agassi said Courier did not play great tennis, "but he played really well at the right time."

Sunday's final will be a clash of styles, with Courier a baseliner and Sampras a serve and volley specialist.

"Pete is playing darn well and I'm playing well too. I'm going to have to serve well," Courier said.

Sampras, at 20 the youngest man in the last four, beat Lendl, the oldest at 31, in just 68 minutes.

Lendl, making his 12th appearance in the season-ending event which he has won five times, was the only unbeaten player in group play to reach the semifinals. He had not dropped a set.

But he seemed helpless against the powerful Sampras.

"These were probably the two best sets I've ever played," said Sampras, the 1990 U.S. Open Champion.

"I was serving well, I was returning unbelievably, when you are that confident you just go for it."

Lendl said, "he couldn't do anything wrong. Everything he touched was good. Every time he needed a big first serve, he made it."

Sampras, seeded sixth, broke Lendl twice to win the first set and raced to a 5-0 lead in the second before Lendl staged a brief comeback.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR MONDAY NOVEMBER 18, 1991

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Put into effect new systems and methods that will make your work and daily chores easier to do. Show your contacts that you are willing to really serve the best interest of all concerned.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) You find that whether doing for yourself or others you can make some big mistakes or get yourself in a jam from which it is difficult to get out.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) You now find that you want a good time but there are too many pressing duties on this day to permit the taking of any chances at all.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Whatever brings out the gypsy in you should be sternly controlled today when it is necessary you think in terms of how you can aid your family.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Start the week right by the care you exert within yourself to avoid anything reckless whether it be in accidental or argumentative lack of control.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Now you have the need to be most careful about your money and property and it is essential that you do wipe out unnecessary expenses and balance your own balance.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) You certainly need to be yourself down to the projects at hand and to refrain from going off on any tangents or making any demands on others.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) You have so many little things to get in order as this new week opens that you would be wise to take it easy and carefully plan eliminating chores that bore you.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Your interest in some social advancement or interest should await a better time when others are more willing to do what you would like and make it easier for you.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) This time begins with some civic or worldly duty that does not please you but is necessary to do it so why waste any time but get it in back of you.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Now you are able to see what you need to do in order to rid yourself of the dreary drudgery you have and to make everything more interesting.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) You have obligations that are a pain in the neck but they must be done sometime then you can be with gregarious Aquarius and get of with fascinating persons.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) That partner you would like to see and discuss some mutual matter is in no mood for discussion and anyway you yourself have ideas not really helpful now.

"The stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"I hate it when my shorts ride up like that."

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

WOYNS

LUGYL

GROFER

PINELP

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: FLAKE MAXIM VANITY HANGAR

Answer: In politics this is where the "paths of glory" might lead—TO THE "GRAVE"

THE Daily Crossword by I. Miller

ACROSS

1 Ardent

5 Campus area

10 Drops

14 Home of Columbus

15 Not abridged

16 Field yield

17 Stumble's statement

18 Organic compound

19 Sunscreen additive

20 Skyline sights

22 Nut

24 ER's school

25 At the pinnacle

28 Dick Grayson's alter ego

29 Villainous

34 First game

38 Angel

37 Sue — Langdon

38 Building section

39 Worship

41 Recipe word

42 Remnant

43 Tater

44 Fireball

46 Laid waste to

49 TV's Ms White

50 Risque

51 Aisle

53 Dell purchase

56 Intermittently

60 Baldwin of "Miami Blues"

61 Persian Gulf

63 A Gardner

64 Ratchet

65 Beneath

66 Screech Shroyer

67 Aspect

68 Impudent

69 Bastes

DOWN

1 Courts

2 "Cat on —" Tin

3 Ready to eat

4 Shuffling along

5 Subdue

6 Invisible

7 Treads the boards

8 Owed

9 Trick

10 Shrimp dish

11 Woody's boy

12 Thug

13 Exceeded the limit

14 Sheet of stamps

15 Knowlege

16 At a distance

17 Used oars

18 Put in one's two cents

19 Refracts

20 Disintegrate

21 Like some cookies

22 Alliance

23 Sawlike part

24 Greedy

25 Unlucky bus riders

26 Bridge coup

27 Level

28 Delphi denizen

29 Recipients

30 Lead to the altar

31 Foole

32 Savage range

33 Laschious

34 Auto pioneer

35 Sarah — Jewett

36 Stream forth

37 Actor

38 Parker

39 One — million

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TAMAR HIRSCH

©1991 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

DO WHAT YOU MUST

East-West vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH

Financial Markets

in co-operation with
Cairo Amman Bank

Foreign Exchange Market Summary (November 11-November 15, 1991)

AMMAN — Negative factors collaborated to produce an unfavourable week for the dollar from start to finish. On the American front, U.S. economic data were worse than expected, and New York stock prices took a nose-dive Friday, while on the German front, expectations of a rise in interest rates strengthened the mark and further undermined the dollar. The U.S. currency, thus, ended the week an average of 1.45 per cent lower against European currencies and 0.80 per cent lower against the yen.

Despite subdued trading Monday, due to holidays in the U.S. and several European centres, the mark was considerably strong, reflecting adversely on the dollar. The strengthening of the German unit was attributed to comments by a Bundesbank official that the bank may have to raise rates to keep inflationary pressures under control. The German government, on the other hand, finally decided on its investment laws, exempting foreigners from a 25 per cent tax on interest income, while keeping secrecy rules in banking operations intact. The dollar thus ended at what was to be its highest closing level of the week against the yen and some European currencies, closing at 130.09 yen to the dollar and \$1.7690 to the pound sterling.

Tuesday witnessed a dollar rebound against the mark, after the U.S. Treasury undersecretary was quoted as saying that prevailing exchange rates have been consistent with the fundamentals. This encouraged traders to cover short dollar positions adopted earlier on. The U.S. unit thus closed at its highest for the week against the mark at 1.6401 marks to the dollar.

The dollar's decline accelerated during the second half of the week under the accumulated pressure of several factors. Expectations of a decrease in yen interest rates weakened the yen Wednesday, which in turn pressured the U.S. currency against its European counterpart. Despite a 0.7 per cent rise in October's producer prices in the U.S., the dollar dropped even further Thursday as the U.S. consumer price index was reported to have risen by a mere 0.1 per cent in October, while retail sales declined by 0.1 per cent.

The U.S. unit retreated sharply just before the New York close Friday. The major factor that triggered the drop was the sudden 120 point decline of the Dow Jones industrial average. This had the effect of discouraging many traders from holding dollar positions. Other factors also added to the decline. Proposals to cap U.S. credit rates aroused fears that if adopted, the measures might exacerbate the existing credit crunch as banks ration credit to less credit worthy customers. In addition, October's industrial production remained unchanged from the previous month, which was seen as yet another sign of a faltering U.S. economic recovery. Meanwhile, fears of higher German interest rates were once again revived by comments by the Bundesbank president, emphasizing that two per cent inflation remains a medium term key goal, as compared to the prevailing rate of four per cent. The mark thus ended the week higher against the Japanese and British units, closing at 79.90 yen to the mark and at 2.8900 marks to the pound sterling, compared to the previous week's closing levels of 79.19 yen to the mark and 2.9056 marks to the pound sterling.

Expectations for this week remain mixed, as technical and fundamental analyses diverge. Some traders see the dollar as rising temporarily on profit-taking, while others maintain that a drop to 1.60 marks to the dollar is the more likely scenario.

New York Closing Rates for Major Currencies Against the U.S. Dollar

Currency	8/11/91 Close	15/11/91 Close	Percent Change
Sterling Pound	1.7647	1.7850	1.15%
Deutsche Mark	1.4665	1.6190	1.70%
Swiss Franc	1.4535	1.4355	1.25%
French Franc	5.6295	5.5345	1.72%
Japanese Yen	130.38	129.35	0.80%

USD Per STD

Euro-Currency Interest Rates

Currency	8/11/91 1-Month (%)	15/11/91 1-Month (%)	8/11/91 3-Month (%)	15/11/91 3-Month (%)
U.S. Dollar	4.75	5.06	4.81	5.18
Sterling Pound	10.37	10.06	10.43	10.25
Deutsche Mark	8.87	9.18	8.93	9.25
Swiss Franc	7.50	7.81	7.56	7.75
French Franc	9.18	9.18	9.31	9.25
Japanese Yen	6.28	5.62	6.28	5.65

Interbank bid rates for amounts exceeding 1 U.S. Dollar 1,000,000 or equivalent.

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6810	0.6830
Sterling Pound	1.2164	1.2225
Deutsche Mark	0.4206	0.4227
Swiss Franc	0.4742	0.4766
French Franc	0.1231	0.1237
Japanese Yen	0.5266	0.5292
Dutch Guilder	0.3734	0.3753
Swedish Krona	0.1137	0.1143
Italian Lira	0.0557	0.0560
Belgian Franc	0.02040	0.02050

As 100

Prices of cigarettes go up in Algeria

ALGIERS (R) — Algerian smokers must pay up to 57 per cent more for a packet of cigarettes.

The prices of tobacco, cigarettes and matches went up Saturday between 8.5 per cent and 57 per cent, the third such round of increases this year.

A packet of Algeria's most popular cigarettes, Afras, rose from 7.30 dinars (33 cents) to 11.50 dinars (52 cents).

The government said Sunday the rises reflected higher costs of imported tobacco, wood and paper and the recent devaluation of the dinar.

Meanwhile, parliament began debating ambitious measures to attract foreign investment in Algeria's oil, gas mineral wealth.

The new laws would allow fore-

ign companies — now limited to searching for and exploiting new deposits — to share in the development of existing energy reserves and mines.

Energy Minister Nordine Ait Laoussine hopes the opening of the oil and gas sectors will bring \$14 billion in new foreign investment to Algeria over the next 10 years.

The measures will also allow private Algerian companies to be formed to prospect for minerals and develop them in partnership with the state.

Algeria earns most of its foreign revenue from oil and gas.

Output totals some 30 million tonnes a year but recovery rates are said to be only 20 per cent because of obsolete technology and poor maintenance.

World Bank official examines effects of AIDS on Third World economies

WASHINGTON (AP) — The spread of AIDS is hurting business in the Third World and may hold down incomes in the long run, a World Bank official said.

She urged that in addition to looking at the human cost of the disease, AIDS also be examined for what it does and will do to people's livelihoods.

"Replacement and retraining costs in hard-hit industries are already beginning to escalate," wrote Jill Armstrong of the bank's Eastern Africa Department.

She said that by 2000 there may be 40 million people infected with the virus, generating one million new AIDS cases a year. Over 900,000 of those will be in Africa, she added.

"AIDS is already the leading

cause of adult death in Abidjan, and about 20 per cent of adults in Kampala are infected," she went on.

Abidjan, capital of the Ivory Coast, has over a million people. Kampala, half its size, is the capital of Uganda.

"The current trend among high-risk groups in Thailand and India is particularly disturbing," she said.

Illness slows down productivity, boosting medical costs and death benefits, she pointed out. She said that in the run the growth of average output may be slowed.

Average output — roughly the same as average income — has grown slowly in Africa over recent years and has actually declined in some countries. The

bank estimated it at \$790 in the Ivory Coast and \$250 in Uganda in 1989, the latest year for which figures are available.

She predicted a multiplier effect because AIDS affects young people at their most productive ages, with university students at increasing risk. Their loss means a waste of education in countries where well trained people are in short supply and places in universities are hard to get, she noted.

Ms. Armstrong saw farm areas, where most Africans live, as liable to be affected because family members who might otherwise be working in the fields must care for patients. Money normally spent on fertilizer and pesticides will go for medical treatment instead. Women and children are

most vulnerable as contacts between the sexes becomes the main way in which AIDS is transmitted, she added.

She said evidence from Africa showed that women are more likely to be infected than men, and at an earlier age.

"The implications are quite serious, given that in many developing countries — particularly in Africa — women are not only the main providers of care but also the ones largely responsible for food production, agricultural labour and the raising of children," she said.

Ms. Armstrong reported estimates that population growth will be cut by a half to a whole percentage point in the worst affected countries over the next 20 years.

Governor of New York says stock market fall reflects crippled economy

CHARLESTON, South Carolina (Agencies) — New York Governor Mario Cuomo, who is mulling a bid for the presidency, said Saturday that Friday's fall in the stock market shows the economy is "crippled in a fundamental way" and requires urgent help from President George Bush and Congress.

"The president and the Congress should sit down and make a real national economic growth plan," Mr. Cuomo told a conference of business executives.

On Friday, the Dow Jones industrial average, which measures the performance of Wall Street blue chip stocks, fell 120 points, its biggest drop in two years.

Mr. Bush told reporters Saturday that the stock market's fundamentals were all right and "there's no reason to get all concerned" about the decline.

But Mr. Cuomo said the drop served notice to both Mr. Bush and Congress that official assurances the economy was emerging from a cyclical downturn were no longer credible.

"Here are all the parties in the land and all the power in the land saying to all the people in the land, 'don't worry, we'll be back next year'."

The stock market heard it and said, 'oh yeah we don't believe you,' Mr. Cuomo said.

"It should be a turning point," Mr. Cuomo added, saying it

should persuade the White House and Congress to admit the economy's problems are severe and need a coordinated plan to spur growth.

Mr. Cuomo said it was "becoming clear that this recession which Washington first denied, then ignored, then said had ended, now says will end soon" is causing fear and pain for the unemployed and requires a growth plan.

Mr. Cuomo, who said he was "still gathering facts" on whether to seek the Democratic presidential nomination in 1992, said he would like to see "an investment-led recovery."

He said that would include higher capital gains taxes on profits from securities and real estate deals for people earning over \$200,000 annually but tax reductions on longer-term gains for investments made over a period of a year or longer.

In addition, the tax credit for research and development spending could be raised to 30 per cent, he suggested.

The Federal Reserve Board, the nation's central bank, could purchase \$20 billion to \$25 billion of stocks in U.S. banks to boost their liquidity, Mr. Cuomo said.

Financial analysts, explaining a reason for the Wall Street sell-off, said stock traders were worried about the nation's economy after a week of unsettling government reports. Concern about the pressure Mr. Bush and Congress were exerting on banks to lower the rate of interest they charge on credit cards, also took a toll on the market, analysts said.

Economists say that reduction in credit card interest rates could impair profits at already troubled U.S. banks and may lead banks to be more selective in offering cards, leaving some consumers less able to buy goods on credit.

Mr. Bush launched the credit card rate discussion Tuesday in a speech in New York, saying lower credit card rates were needed to stimulate consumer confidence in the economy.

But when Congress reacted

with proposals mandating lower rates, the White House backtracked and said it opposed federal mandates.

Mr. Bush has said he believes the country is coming out of a recession that began in July 1990, though government economic reports have not indicated the recovery has gained a great deal of momentum.

The White House, anticipating that the sluggish economy will be the main theme of next year's presidential election, sought to put a brave face on the past week's economic reports that showed industrial production unchanged last month, retail sales down slightly and first time unemployment claims up.

Mr. Bush said Friday he was pleased that some U.S. banks had heeded his call to reduce credit card interest rates and urged others to follow suit, but the White House said it was strongly opposed to legal limits.

Mr. Bush believes that a voluntary reduction of rates charged users of so-called "plastic money" will help restore consumer confidence and give a tonic to the sluggish U.S. economy.

In a speech to business leaders, he reiterated that he would resist quick fixes like an election-year tax cut to get the economy moving.

Mr. Bush appealed for lower credit card interest rates, and ATT announced the next day that it was cutting its universal credit

card rate from 17.4 to 16.4 per cent.

"Earlier this week, I called for lower credit card rates to take some of the sting out of consumer debt, and I'm pleased to see some banks responding," Mr. Bush said.

"Frankly, I hope more will follow suit to provide consumer confidence and give this economy a little kick," he added.

While pressing for lower credit card rates, the president is opposed to a Senate proposal to limit these rates to four per cent more than the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (IRS) charges delinquent taxpayers.

At the current IRS rate, credit card issuers could charge a maximum of 14 per cent under the proposal.

The Senate attached the proposal to its version of banking reform legislation by a vote of 79-14 and House of Representatives speaker Thomas Foley said Thursday that the House was likely to pass a similar measure this week.

Meanwhile, bankers fighting a proposed law that would cap credit card interest rates say they can't make money if forced to charge 14 per cent, or even 16 per cent.

But other interest rates haven't been this low in years, if not decades, so what's keeping credit cards at a national average of more than 18 per cent?

Yeltsin widens reforms

MOSCOW (R) — President Boris Yeltsin, seeking to insulate his giant Russian republic from economic chaos gripping the Soviet Union, is taking steps to establish firm control over the levers of central economic power.

In a series of decrees issued late Saturday, Mr. Yeltsin served notice that Russia was ready to plough ahead with radical reform — largely on its own terms.

The orders include Russian authority over money printing presses on its territory — key to controlling the runaway rouble — and the takeover of property of former central ministries and most of the responsibility for foreign trade.

"By Dec. 10, it is planned to create a set of measures to defend the interests of the Russian Federation in regard to the intentions of former union republics to introduce their own currencies," said one decree, echoing a common theme.

Other key elements of the package set full Russian control over its reserves of gold, diamonds, precious stones and oil — including restrictions on oil exports to guarantee adequate

domestic supplies for winter.

At the heart of the decree, which made no reference to Mr. Yeltsin's planned freeing of prices, lies the defence of Russia's wealth from continued drain into the other republics of what many here now call "the former Soviet Union."

Mr. Yeltsin also loosened restrictions on foreign trade and gave all Russian citizens the right to open hard currency accounts.

In a direct challenge to the Soviet state bank Gosbank, Mr. Yeltsin decreed: "Rouble rates against foreign currency, established by the state bank of the USSR, are not valid on the territory of the Russian Federation."

Hard currency deductions and import and export taxes imposed by Soviet authorities, including President Mikhail Gorbachev, would be cancelled from Jan. 1, 1992.

Companies, which must now sell part of their foreign currency revenues to the Soviet state bank, would have to sell it to Russia, giving the republic its own currency reserves. These could be used to service foreign debt and pay for imports.

Part Of A Deluxe Furnished Villa For Rent

Consists of 3 bedrooms, salon, dining room, sitting room, kitchen, bathroom with central heating.

Location: Abdoun.

Call tel.: 632981 — Amman.

CAR FOR SALE

1987 Austin Montego 2 Ltr for sale. Tax unpaid. Sealed bids to British Embassy not later than 1 December 1991. Car can be viewed by arrangement.

Tel.: 823100 Ext. 211

SECRETARY REQUIRED

A multinational company is looking for an executive secretary with the following qualifications for its office in Amman:

★ Ability to run the office in the absence of the managers.

★ Has an excellent command of the English language.

★ Can use a P.C.

If interested, send your C.V. to: P.O. Box 708 Amman, Jordan

All applications will be treated confidentially.

Super Deluxe Furnished Flat For Rent

3 bedrooms (one master), sitting & dining room, 2 baths, central antenna, central heating and garage.

For information please call 616247

WANTED

A small family consisting of three people needs a Filipina or Sri Lankan maid, holding a visa to the States. Salary offered will not exceed \$200 a month, plus a round-trip ticket at the expense of the family.

Please call tel. 661840/616588

FOR RENT

Furnished semi-villa, consisting of three bedrooms, three bathrooms, salon — dining room, sitting room, office room, garage and a garden, glassed-in veranda and super deluxe furniture. Annual rent.

Pls. call Naser Real Estate Office, tel. 630040, 639807, P.O. Box 6290

Cinema Tel: 677420

CONCORD

Van Damme — In
DOUBLE IMPACT

Shows: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema Tel: 675571

Nabil Al Mashini Theatre

'SOMERSAULT TIME' PLAY

Starring 'Abu Awwad Family'
After the great success it achieved
continues its shows daily
at 8:30 p.m.

Please buy your tickets in advance

Cinema Tel: 634144

PHILADELPHIA

PRETTY WOMAN

Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.

Cinema Tel: 625155

RAINBOW

SNAKE EATER

Shows: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30 p.m.

Furnished Villa For Rent

A three bedroom villa exclusively furnished west of Amman — minutes from A.C.S. - A.B.S. English School. Available for sale, a two door Chrysler Le Baron, diplomatic plates plus all options.

Please call 845234

Villa For Annual Rent

Furnished or Unfurnished.
Located at Prince Rashid Qtr. Near the Royal Automobile Club & the American School.
3 bedrooms, a small bedroom, 3 bathrooms, 2 sitting rooms, dining room, dining corner. Garden and 2 open garages.

Tel.: 615886

For Sale In The Free Zone

Old Milwaukee Beer.
Pls. call tel. 655868,
from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Part Of A Deluxe Furnished Villa For Rent

Consists of 3 bedrooms, salon, dining room, sitting room, kitchen, bathroom with central heating.

Location: Abdoun.

Call tel.: 632981 — Amman.

CAR FOR SALE

1987 Austin Montego 2 Ltr for sale. Tax unpaid. Sealed bids to British Embassy not later than 1 December 1991. Car can be viewed by arrangement.

Tel.: 823100 Ext. 211

SECRETARY REQUIRED

A multinational company is looking for an executive secretary with the following qualifications for its office in Amman:

★ Ability to run the office in the absence of the managers.

★ Has an excellent command of the English language.

★ Can use a P.C.

If interested, send your C.V. to: P.O. Box 708 Amman, Jordan

All applications will be treated confidentially.

Super Deluxe Furnished Flat For Rent

3 bedrooms (one master), sitting & dining room, 2 baths, central antenna, central heating and garage.

For information please call 616247

WANTED

A small family consisting of three people needs a Filipina or Sri Lankan maid, holding a visa to the States. Salary offered will not exceed \$200 a month, plus a round-trip ticket at the expense of the family.

Please call tel. 661840/616588

FOR RENT

Furnished semi-villa, consisting of three bedrooms, three bathrooms, salon — dining room, sitting room, office room, garage and a garden, glassed-in veranda and super deluxe furniture. Annual rent.

Pls. call Naser Real Estate Office, tel. 630040, 639807, P.O. Box 6290

Croatia offers to surrender Vukovar if civilians kept safe

ZAGREB (Agencies) — Croatian government and Yugoslav army officials held frantic telephone talks Sunday to save civilians trapped in Vukovar as it tumbled before advancing Serb-led troops.

Gen. Andrija Raseta, the deputy commander of the Yugoslav army's 5th District based in the Croatian capital, and Zivko Juzbasic, a deputy premier in Croatia's coalition government, appealed to a top Yugoslav general by telephone from a Zagreb hotel.

"Please, do everything for the civilian population to be protected and evacuated from Vukovar," said Gen. Raseta, speaking from a small glass office in the lobby of the Hotel I — headquarters for the European Community (EC) mission in Croatia.

The conversation was held in the presence of several reporters. Mr. Juzbasic, a 67-year-old ethnic Serb brought into the Croatian government earlier this year, then took the telephone.

"If you don't protect (civilians), there'll be a massacre in Vukovar ... and then Serbs in Croatia, in Zagreb, will live to see a pogrom, for which you will also bear responsibility," he warned.

The frantic exchange reflected fears that a massacre in Vukovar, under siege for three months, could spark a chain reaction of violence against ethnic Serbs left in Croatia.

That would likely sink already slim chances of stopping Europe's bloodiest conflict since World War II, which has left thousands dead since June 25 when Croatia declared independence from Yugoslavia.

Croatian officials at the hotel said that Gen. Raseta and Mr. Juzbasic were talking to Gen. Zivota Panic, commander of the army's First District based in Belgrade, the federal and Serbian capital.

The first district covers Vukovar, on the Danube River frontier between Croatia and Serbia.

Croatian Interior Ministry troops were reported Sunday to

be trying to negotiate a surrender to Gen. Panic's field commanders.

Vukovar has become a potent symbol of Croatian resistance by repelling repeated attacks by the army and Serb insurgents, but appeared ready to fall Sunday.

Serb nationalists want the now-levelled town as the capital of a new autonomous Serbian region carved from Croatian territory.

For many army officials, conquering Vukovar has become a matter of pride.

During the last week, Serb insurgents and Yugoslav army units have advanced into Vukovar, taking the city street-by-street and hauling cowering families from ruined homes.

There have been no reports of massacres. But both sides in the conflict allege massacres have taken place elsewhere, and the Croats are especially afraid of ethnic Serb insurgents.

More than 10,000 civilians, including 2,000 children were trapped in their cellars Sunday, "sitting, waiting for death," Vukovar

journalist Alenka Mirkovic said by telephone.

"The problem is how to evacuate civilians and the wounded," Mr. Juzbasic said in the telephone conversation.

Stressing he was an ethnic Serb and a former Communist partisan, Mr. Juzbasic, appealed to the Belgrade official to contact a Col. Mirkovic, Yugoslav Army commander in Vukovar, to prevent any mass killings.

The Croatian government said it had asked the regular army to set up a buffer zone to protect civilians.

"This buffer zone would include all of Vukovar," Croatian Information Minister Branko Salaj said.

Asked if this meant that Croats would surrender if the army agreed, he said: "Yes, that is the logical conclusion."

Croatian officials said earlier that most of their forces had been forced to quit the besieged Danube town since Saturday and that Croatia had no military way of retaking control of it.



Serb guerrillas on their way to fight for Vukovar

Baker gets Chinese promises on arms, jail labour

PEKING (R) — U.S. Secretary of State James Baker said Sunday three days of hard talks in China had produced agreements on trade, arms proliferation and prison labour, key issues threatening Sino-American relations.

Mr. Baker told a news conference he achieved "clear gains in the fields of proliferation and trade."

He said China had conditionally agreed to accede to the missile technology control regime (MTCR).

It would sign the agreement, which covers sales of potentially destabilising medium-range missiles, if the United States lifted sanctions imposed in June this year on two Chinese companies involved in the arms trade.

China had also pledged to push through its parliament by the end of the year legislation paving the way for its accession to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), Mr. Baker said.

Peking would go through the complicated procedures of accession within three months of parliament's ratification. China agreed to sign the treaty during a visit by former Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu this year.

On human rights, Mr. Baker said there had been some gains, but "not as much as we hoped for."

Washington has accused China of boosting its already huge trade surplus with the United States by using cheap prison labour — possibly including jailed dissidents — to make goods for export.

Mr. Baker said China had agreed in principle on the text of a memorandum of understanding that would set out procedures by which China would ensure such goods did not enter U.S. markets.

Mr. Baker said China had provided information on the fate of dissidents on a list of 800 names presented by Washington to the Chinese government.

He said the United States and China had agreed on continuing formal dialogue on human rights.

Mr. Baker said the Chinese government had made "positive intellectual property right proposals which the U.S. government welcomes."

The proposals covered copyrights, computer software, and patent protection.

Top pianist plays to crowd in slum

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — One of Brazil's top classical pianists played to an enthusiastic crowd of thousands at a free outdoor concert Friday evening. The site: Rocinha, the largest slum in Latin America. Dressed in a black tuxedo with white bow tie, Arthur Moreira Lima opened his performance with Johann Sebastian Bach's Toccata in D Minor. He played a Steinway piano set atop a concrete slab in the middle of the slum. The site offered a spectacular view of two of Rio's most famous mountains, the flat-topped Rock of Gavea and the twin peaks of Two Brothers. In the background, lights twinkled from the brick shacks of this hillside community of 250,000, which overlooks the luxury beachfront neighbourhood of Sao Conrado and the Atlantic Ocean. The 90-minute show ended with a fireworks display, as Lima played an encore of a lively work by Heitor Villa-Lobos, Brazil's most famous composer. For that piece, Lima was accompanied by the rhythm section of Rocinha's Samba School — a neighbourhood club which marches during Rio's annual carnival parade. The eclectic programme included works by classical giants such as Mozart and Chopin, as well as popular songs by contemporary Brazilian performers. Fringinha and Luiz Gonzaga, whose backwoods style is hugely popular in Brazil's poor northeast.

Rod Stewart, wife sue 2 tabloids

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Rod Stewart and his model wife are suing two tabloids, saying photographers for one trespassed at their home and the other printed a libelous story about the rocker's first marriage. The Superior Court lawsuit said photographs of Stewart and wife Rachel Hunter sunbathing and changing clothes at their rural England home, Stewart spokesman Mitchell Schneider said Thursday. The couple said the pictures were printed on May 7 with a degrading story. They also are suing the News Extra for a story in July that said Stewart cheated on his first wife with her permission. The couple said the story was false. They said the tabloid refused their request for a retraction, Mr. Schneider said. The suit seeks \$25 million from each of the newspapers.

Producers seek big performer

LONDON (AP) — Producers of a London revival of the opera Turandot are seeking a big — and they mean big — performer to play a 250-pound (115 kg) executioner in the lavish Puccini opera. Publicist Peter Thompson said the call had gone out to local fitness and bodybuilding clubs to find the proper person, male or female. Singing is not necessary for the role but a good arm, since the executioner is required to chop off the heads of Princess Turandot's failed lovers until she is rescued by Prince Calaf. Romanian director Andrei Serban's production will play 10 performances Dec. 29-Jan. 8 at the 8,000-seat Wembley Arena in northwest London. Dame Gwyneth Jones and Grace Bumbury alternate lead roles in a starry cast that includes Cynthia Haymon and Willard White.

Instant coffee does not increase blood pressure

LONDON (AP) — Drinking instant coffee does not raise blood pressure in people with mild hypertension, according to a Scottish study. "We found no evidence that caffeine restriction or a change to decaffeinated coffee is beneficial in reducing blood pressure in patients with borderline or mild hypertension," said Dr. Thomas MacDonald, the leading investigator. The study is published in the Nov. 16 issue of the British Medical Journal. Dr. MacDonald and other investigators at the Aberdeen Royal Infirmary monitored 23 men and 27 women between the ages of 25 and 67, with mild hypertension. Volunteers were put on four two-week diet regimes: Normal diet, completely caffeine-free diet plus decaffeinated coffee, and caffeine-free diet plus decaffeinated coffee. Regardless of diet, diastolic blood pressures did not vary significantly. Diastolic blood pressure averaged 92.2 after the normal diet, 93.2 after caffeine-free diet, 91.7 after caffeine-free diet with decaffeinated coffee, and 91.5 after caffeine-free diet with decaffeinated coffee. The paradoxical increase in blood pressure with no caffeine was not statistically significant, said Mr. MacDonald.

Democrat wins Louisiana poll

NEW ORLEANS (R) — Flamboyant former Governor Edwin Edwards easily won Louisiana's governorship poll Saturday and branded his opponent, former Ku Klux Klan leader David Duke, a "merchant of hate and master of deceit."

With 90 per cent of the vote counted, unofficial results gave Mr. Edwards, a populist Democrat, 61 per cent of the vote and Mr. Duke, a former neo-Nazi, 39 per cent.

Duke, a Republican, got substantially less support than forecast in a bitterly-contested poll that attracted international attention.

Jubilant Edwards supporters danced to the beat of a jazz band outside his campaign headquarters in New Orleans' boisterous French quarter.

The scandal-tainted, three-time governor declared that Louisiana had rejected hate, bigotry and division.

Mr. Duke won 44 per cent of the vote in elections for the U.S. Senate last year and political analysts had predicted he would take at least as much in Saturday's race.

After a three-way primary election on Oct. 19 in which incumbent Republican Governor Buddy Roemer was knocked out, Saturday's run-off contest was seen by many voters as a choice between the lesser of two evils.

"We were given the choice between a racist and a rogue," said Michael Gordon, a 46-year-old electrical engineer who joined the street party outside the Edwards headquarters. "We chose the rogue."

Mr. Edwards was voted out of office four years ago after three terms as governor which were tainted by scandals and corruption. Mr. Edwards was twice tried but not convicted on racketeering charges.

Mr. Duke spent most of his adult life on the extreme right-wing fringe, some of whose militants believe that blacks have smaller brains than whites, that Jews descended from Satan, and that Adolf Hitler was a genius.

Visibly disappointed at the result, Mr. Duke, a former Grand Wizard of the white supremacist Ku Klux Klan, told reporters he had no immediate plans to run for any other political office.

But he made clear of had no intention of withdrawing from the political scene.

"This is the beginning, not the end," he told cheering supporters in Baton Rouge, the state capital. "I want to affect American politics... and I know I will play a role."

To chants of "Duke, Duke," he added: "The candidate may have lost but the message has gone out loud and clear: 'We've got to change our priorities... the time has come to heal the liberal welfare system which is destroying our country.'"

The central theme of Mr. Duke's campaign was that a "rising welfare underclass" — Mr. Duke shorthand for blacks — was responsible for most of America's social and economic problems.

Mr. Duke's underlying message, political analysts say, was that the average white American was being bled dry by taxes used to subsidise blacks who lacked the motivation to work.

Khmer Rouge leader in Cambodia

PHNOM PENH (R) — Khmer Rouge leader and former torture master Son Sen arrived Sunday in the capital he emptied at gunpoint 16 years ago.

The former Khmer Rouge defence minister, a mild-mannered ex-school teacher did not speak to journalists as he walked across the airport tarmac, still scarred from fighting during the civil war that rocked Cambodia in the 1970s.

Dressed in a sober business suit and accompanied by several young aides Mr. Son Sen entered the airport building with officials of the Phnom Penh government. His army has fought to overthrow for 13 years.

Mr. Son Sen looked frightened as soldiers and his aides pushed photographers and cameramen out of his way.

"I am very happy to come here," he said.

Mr. Son Sen was met at the airport by the head of the Foreign Ministry press section, Chum Bunnong, and was driven away in a police motorcade escorted by motorcycle outriders, horns blaring and warning lights flashing.

Mr. Son Sen fled the Cambodian capital ahead of invading Vietnamese forces which toppled the Khmer Rouge government in 1979 and had not been back to the city since.

Before leaving Bangkok, he told Reuters: "I would like to call on all Khmer people to forget the past. The past is history. We better talk about the future."

"Now we are reaching for national reconciliation. We are unified. I don't want anyone to jeopardise the atmosphere of unity, but to join hands and cooperate with each other for the reconstruction of our country," he said.

As the chief of security during the 1975-79 Khmer Rouge rule, Mr. Son Sen was responsible for administering the Tuol Sleng Torture Centre on the outskirts of Phnom Penh where more than 20,000 people were killed.

The Khmer Rouge under the leadership of the infamous Pol Pot have been blamed for the deaths of more than a million people who were either executed or died of disease, starvation or overwork when the radical Maoists tried to create a pure Agrarian state.

Mr. Son Sen has returned to Phnom Penh to serve on a national reconciliation body which under a U.N. peace plan groups Cambodia's pro-Vietnamese government with the Khmer Rouge and two other guerrilla factions in the run-up to U.N.-organised elections in 1993.

Mr. Khieu Samphan, nominal

head of the Khmer Rouge who will also sit on the Supreme National Council, is expected in Phnom Penh later this month.

Meanwhile a crowd of angry Cambodians gathered outside the house where the Khmer Rouge leader was staying after returning to Phnom Penh Sunday.

"We want to see what the killer looks like," said Keo Vuthy who lost a brother and a sister during Khmer Rouge rule.

An hour after Mr. Son Sen's return to the city some 50 Cambodians were outside the government guest house where he is staying.

"We are waiting to see the killer and maybe we will get the chance to throw some stones at him," said Keo Vuthy, 36, who drives a motorcycle taxi.

"Maybe if we have the chance we could hit him on the head and kill him," he said.

Chinese journalists who came out of the house said armed guards were stationed all the way up the stairs leading to Mr. Son Sen's room.

A policeman standing nearby said that killing Khmer Rouge leaders would jeopardise chances for peace. He said they should just be barred from elections.

"Killing them won't bring our families back to life," he said.

Cheney to arrive in Seoul for troop, nuclear talks

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. Defence Secretary Dick Cheney heads for South Korea Monday to discuss prospects for further U.S. military cuts in the vast Pacific region.

The trip will also focus on the volatile issue of nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula after reports that North Korea is seeking to develop a nuclear arsenal.

He will join annual U.S.-South Korea security consultations from Wednesday to Friday, then briefly visit Japan before flying home Saturday.

The Pentagon, faced with painful budget cuts in the coming decade, is already trimming its Pacific forces by 10 per cent over three years, and spokesman Bob Hall said the possibility of future reductions would be on Mr. Cheney's list of topics.

"He will certainly be discussing our future security arrangements with the Koreans. But whether it will produce a new (force) number, I wouldn't want to speculate," Mr. Hall said.

In the past two years, Washington has cut its forces in South Korea by nearly 10 per cent to about 45,000 and is making a similar trim from among some 47,000 soldiers, sailors and airmen now in Japan.

The 132,000 U.S. personnel in the Pacific and Asia will decrease slightly next year as the drawdown is completed in Japan. Volcano-damaged Clark Base in the Philippines will be turned over to Manila this month and the U.S. Navy plans to leave Subic Bay Naval Station by 1994.

Mr. Hall said he did not know if nuclear arms were on the agenda in Korea and Japan, but senior defence officials said charges by Washington and Seoul that North Korea is seeking to develop such weapons would certainly be discussed by Mr. Cheney and South Korean Defence Minister Lee Jong Koo.

Mr. Cheney, who will be visiting South Korea on the heels of a similar visit by U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, has said repeatedly that despite the collapse of communism in the Soviet Union, he has had dreams about the possibility of an Asian nuclear holocaust sparked by North Korea.

Although North and South Korea have begun talks on a non-aggression pact and Seoul has vowed not to develop its own nuclear weapons, Mr. Hall said last week that Washington would not remove the South from its protective nuclear umbrella.

Gorbachev refuses to deport Honecker

BONN (R) — Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev is deeply opposed to deporting Erich Honecker, the ousted East German leader now in Russia, to face trial in united Germany, the magazine Stern reported Sunday.

"Honecker's case is first of all a humanitarian question," Mr. Gorbachev told the weekly in an interview made available ahead of publication.

"If we look at the history of the past decades and use the same measure being applied to Honecker then we would probably have to send all statesmen and government heads to jail instead of into retirement."

Stern said Mr. Gorbachev was interviewed Friday, the day the independence-minded Russian government decided to expel Mr. Honecker from its territory.

Russian Boris Yeltsin has said he wants to hand Mr. Honecker over to Germany, where he pays his first visit later this week, but that Mr. Gorbachev is protecting the former leader of the now-defunct Communist state.

Germany wants to try Mr. Honecker on manslaughter charges stemming from shoot-to-kill orders at the Berlin Wall and East German border.

Plans for U.S. 'doomsday government' revealed

WASHINGTON (AP) — In the event the U.S. government is felled by nuclear war, who takes over?

A programme to be broadcast Sunday night by CNN's special assignment reveals the existence of a super-secret agency run by the White House, which has devised an alternate plan for presidential succession and a network of bunkers and mobile command centres to enable the government to function if the country is attacked.

CNN says in the one-hour special called "doomsday government" that the agency, called the National Programme Office (NPO), was authorised in a secret 1982 directive issued by then-President Ronald Reagan, and came under the jurisdiction of the Vice President, George Bush.

Marine Col. Oliver North, then

an aide on the National Security Council, was instrumental in setting up the covert project, which he discussed briefly in his recently published book, Under Fire.

The NPO's mission is to make sure civilian leaders can maintain control over the military in case of attack. If all 17 legal successors to the president are incapacitated, the plan provides for others — elected and non-elected officials — to take over, CNN says.

Among those who at one time were in the NPO reserve to serve as alternate successors were former White House chief of staff Howard Baker, former CIA Director Richard Helms, former U.N. Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick and former Energy Secretary James Schlesinger, according to CNN.

The agency spent \$8 billion on

the Presidential Support System Network, which includes a nuclear-resistant communications system, but as recently as last winter it still couldn't get the network to run, the programme says.

In 1987, the House Armed Services Committee and the army began investigating contract irregularities in the NPO, CNN says. Investigators spoke with Tom Golden, then an NPO official and now head of counter-intelligence for the army's Strategic Defence Command.

After cooperating with investigators, Mr. Golden told CNN, he was the target of four federal investigations. The army and the congressional panel concluded he had come under retaliation for cooperating with the authorities in their investigation of the NPO.

Chechens hope to achieve prosperity by uniting Muslims of north Caucasus

GROZNY, USSR (AP) — Economist Yuragi Mamodayev has big dreams for oil-rich Chechen-Ingushetia, a mountainous enclave that has declared independence from Russia and seeks to unite Muslims of the northern Caucasus mountains.

"When there's competition and people really work, the world will see our potential. With our oil profits, we can buy machines to produce first-rate products," said Mr. Mamodayev, who heads an interim committee running Chechen-Ingushetia's economy.

Gen. Dzokar Dudayev, president of Chechen-Ingushetia, became a hero in the northern Caucasus for defying Russian Boris Yeltsin's declaration of emergency rule aimed at stifling the enclave's drive for independence.

Chechen-Ingushetia is leading efforts to create a confederation out of the six mainly Muslim territories that stretch 500 kilometres from the Caspian to the Black Sea on the southern edge of Russia. They have a total of 5.3 million people.

"A United Caucasus, a confederation, is the best way to develop a market. Our peoples are so similar. We were never Russianised," said Mr. Mamodayev, who

is unofficially called the region's "prime minister."

The Red Army crushed attempts to create a Caucasus federation after Czarist rule collapsed in 1917. Stalin later ruthlessly persecuted the violently anti-Soviet peoples in the northern Caucasus.

The Chechens, Ingush and Balkars were deported during World War II and allowed to return only in the 1950s. By that time other ethnic groups were living in their homes and some ancient borders had been changed.

"In a federation, we small nations will be better able to defend our interests and stand up to Russian chauvinism," said Mukhammed Khafise, a lawmaker from Kabardinian-Balkarskaya, a region west of Chechen-Ingushetia.

After he became president on Oct. 27, Dudayev nationalised Russian and Soviet property in Chechen-Ingushetia, including his region's valuable oil reserves.

Although Chechen-Ingushetia accounts for only a small fraction of the Russian Federation's oil production, Mr. Mamodayev said, it refines more than 20 times what it can use. He intends to try to sell the rest on the world market.

Mr. Mamodayev wants to develop light industry to process wool that until now was sent to Russia. He hopes to improve the region's high-quality brandy produced and develop tourism in the starkly beautiful mountains.

He also said he was confident Chechen-Ingushetia could resist any Russian economic blockade aimed at pressuring it to rescind its declaration of independence.

"We are not isolated by rail, sea or air. We cannot be cut off," he said. Even Russian Vice President Alexander Rutskoi has conceded a blockade would be hard to enforce.

But Chechen-Ingushetia faces serious problems. The interim government is broke. And there is virtually no sugar, an important staple in the tea-drinking region.

Gen. Dudayev has appealed to other states, including Iran and Turkey, for assistance. The heavily Muslim Soviet republics Kazakhstan and Azerbaijan have agreed to help.

Chechen-Ingushetia is not quite prepared for international business. The main hotel has only one long-distance telephone line. The only foreign language most Chechens and Ingush know is Russian.

Poor scavenge in Moscow's garbage dumps in search of food, clothing

KHMETEVO, USSR (AP) — Vasily Antipov, 70, scavenged for his supper in the stinking mounds of garbage, stabbing what he wanted with a long pick and tossing it into a canvas bag on his shoulder.

"I'm looking for chicken, maybe some bread," he said, working quickly ahead of the bulldozers that flatten the dumped loads. "I'm an old man, but I'm going to survive."

Mr. Antipov is among a growing crowd of men, women, even children, who pick through the garbage every day at Khmetevo, a 125-acre dump 43 kilometres from Moscow, just off the main highway to St. Petersburg.

They look not only for food, but for a whole range of scarce consumer goods.

The sight of scavengers clumped on a snow-dusted heap of garbage in the fading light of an autumn afternoon was like a scene in a painting by the medieval Dutch artist Hieronymus Bosch.

They are among the hungriest and poorest victims of the collapse of the Soviet Union's 74-year experiment in communism, trying to survive in an inchoate new world as yet unable to provide for them.

Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet president, has warned of a hard winter and urged the west to

contribute food as his country makes the painful move from a centralised economy to a market system.

Nowhere is the pain more evident than at Khmetevo. Enduring a stench that spreads for miles, the scavengers search for edible food among the egg and milk cartons, cans and rotting cabbage, trying to avoid live rats and the dead ones underfoot.

"We always could find lots of good things here like coats, sometimes shoes and food," said Sergei Fedorov, who has been driving a garbage truck to the dump for 15 years. "Now people are coming for bread."

After emptying his big orange

garbage truck, Mr. Fedorov spent 30 minutes foraging for clothing, perhaps to sell. His co-driver, looking for food, scooped up a half-eaten chicken, shook it off and threw it into a plastic bag full of bread ends.

Nearly everyone complains about the soaring prices that accompany the conversion to a market economy, and pensioners like Mr. Antipov are particularly hard-pressed.

A chicken costs 110 rubles at the farmers' market, compared to less than 7 rubles a pound at state stores, which seldom have them in stock. Even a Soviet citizen who has a job receives only about 350 rubles a month.

Even prices for staples like bread are rising. To cushion the blow, the Moscow City government plans to introduce coupon rationing on Dec. 1.

"I don't have anything to wear," said Vladimir Smirnov, a retired shoemaker who was born with the Bolshevik Revolution in 1917. "Everything is so expensive that I come here to get some clothes."

He stuffed bottles, to trade for vodka, into a backpack filled with clothes.

Some of those who forage don't always like to admit it. "I wasn't doing anything. I'm just taking a walk," a middle-aged woman said, trying to hide a

half-full blue bag from a reporter. Several minutes later, she was back to combing through a pile of old clothing with a few other women.

"Look at all this stuff being thrown away," said Vladimir Ivanov, another garbage-truck driver. "It should be recycled."

"Look at this," he said holding up some old scraps of fur. "You can't tell me you couldn't make fur caps out of this." He stuffed the scraps into a plastic bag.

Nina Basova was busy emptying plastic bags and folding them neatly in a pile. She said she tears bags into strips and uses them to protect the plants in her garden.

